

# ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

VOLUME IX.—NUMBER 7.  
WHOLE NUMBER 423.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1871.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.  
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

Publication Office No. 39 Park Row.  
SUBSCRIPTION SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

## THE PEABODY BREECH-LOADING RIFLE.

THIS successful breech-loader began its career before the United States board assembled at Springfield, Mass., in January, 1865. It was entered then as one of sixty-five competitors for adoption into the U. S. Army. The severe tests instituted by the board soon brought this number down to eight, then to four, and finally to the Peabody alone, which the board declared to be "undeniably the best arm for the use of troops," and therefore "the board recommends the Peabody gun for adoption." But the war having ceased, the recommendation of the committee was not acted upon, as, in the words of General Dyer, "the necessity for the immediate selection of a breech-loader having ceased to exist, further action was suspended." It was however resumed at Washington on March 10, 1866, and a second board took the subject again under consideration. This board recommended a system for converting the old Springfield guns to breech-loaders, confirmed the recommendation of the first committee in favor of the Peabody for new arms, and adjourned. Action was still further delayed on the last recommendation, and a third board was appointed, and met at St. Louis. This board, under date June 10, 1870, rendered a decision in favor of six arms.

have now been fired, and no alteration or injury of the breech could be discovered. With this test the trials with the Peabody were concluded, and the arm has been found to answer every military requirement."

Prussia reports: "We conclude our report in the words, the Peabody gun and carbine are weapons perfectly adapted for military service."

The Danish Consul in New York reported: "His Danish Majesty has instructed me to communicate the report on the Peabody gun. This arm has given a very satisfactory result, and must be considered the best single-shot breech-loading rifle." Other reports are to the same effect. In 1866 Switzerland, after testing every arm presented, ordered 15,000 Peabody rifles from the manufacturers, the Providence Tool Company of Providence, R. I. Canada also ordered 5,000 of these arms. Roumania subsequently sent orders for 25,000, and France has taken 39,000. About 18,000 Peabody rifles and carbines have also been furnished to Cuba.

The following cut shows the construction of the arm, the mechanism being represented as opened, and the shell partially withdrawn:

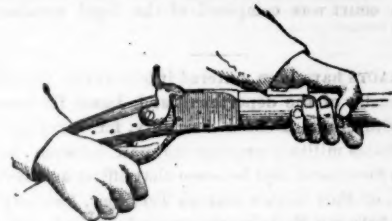
B is the breech-block pivoted at a, and grooved at the top to form a guide for the cartridge.

E is the guard lever, its short arm, D, taking in the recess of the block, and controlling its movement.

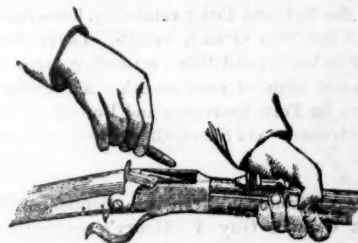
G is the elbow-lever extractor, and is acted upon by the breech-block throwing out the shell more or less vio-

immunity from premature explosion, or any danger whatever in its manipulation, was there convincingly shown by the firing pin being so blocked while projecting forward that it was rendered immovable, in which position it was found impossible to produce an explosion; and the superiority of the Peabody in this respect was thus incontestably considered. Its mechanism is adapted either to the transferring of muzzle-loading to breech-loading arms, or to new arms, though the latter more completely fills the requirements now made in respect of range, accuracy, and lightness of aim, and its ammunition.

The facility with which the Peabody is handled may be seen from the following illustrated manual:

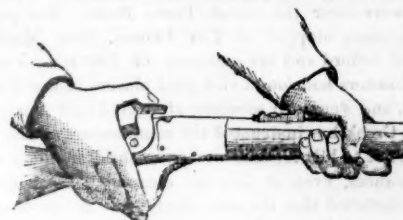


1. Place the ball of the thumb of the right hand on the guard lever, and throw the lever down smartly.
2. Insert cartridge with thumb and forefinger, pushing cartridge home with thumb.



ing cartridge home with thumb.

3. Cock hammer with thumb, and simultaneously



close guard lever with fingers of right hand.

4. Fire.

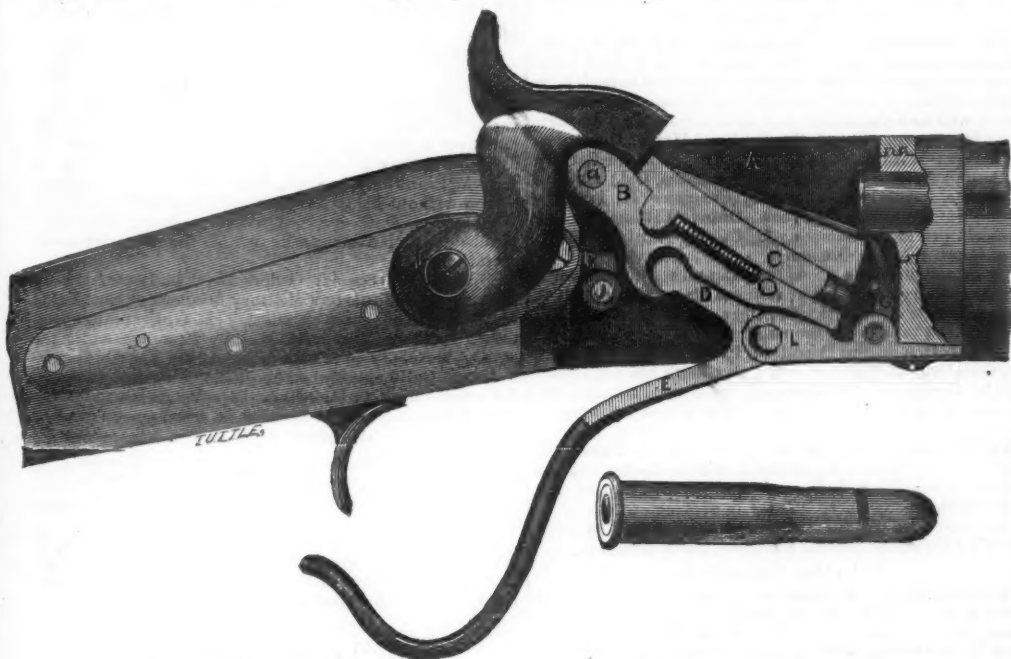
The sound mechanical principles upon which it is constructed are inferentially shown by its imitators, among which may be mentioned Werdn of Austria (Peabody extractor); Werder of Bavaria (Peabody block and extractor); Duval of Canada (do. do.); and Martini-Henry of England (Peabody block, extractor, and lever). The identity of the Martini-Henry with the Peabody in all essential principles is fully acknowledged by English manufacturers, and a royalty is paid the American patentees upon all such arms.

It will be the fault of the States themselves of our Union if with arms of the Peabody class before them the militia are not supplied with breech-loaders in the place of the old muzzle-loaders, whose day is now forever past. It is understood that several States have the introduction of this arm under consideration, and their action will doubtless be soon followed by many others.

COLONEL Henry C. Longnecker of Pennsylvania, whose death is announced, was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on the 17th of April, 1821. Volunteering at the outbreak of the Mexican war, he served with honor in all the principal battles as lieutenant and adjutant. On his return he was elected district attorney, and discharged the functions of the position with rare ability. In 1858 he was representative from the Sixth district to the Thirty-sixth Congress. In the rebellion he was made colonel of the Ninth Pennsylvania Infantry, and commanded a brigade in Western Virginia in 1861 and also at Antietam in 1862.

GENERAL Grant has notified the board of managers of the Military Asylum located near Dayton, that he will be present next Monday at the annual meeting of the board. Preparations of an extended character are being made to appropriately receive the President of the United States.

GENERAL Sherman returned to Washington on the 26th, from his visit of inspection in New York Harbor.



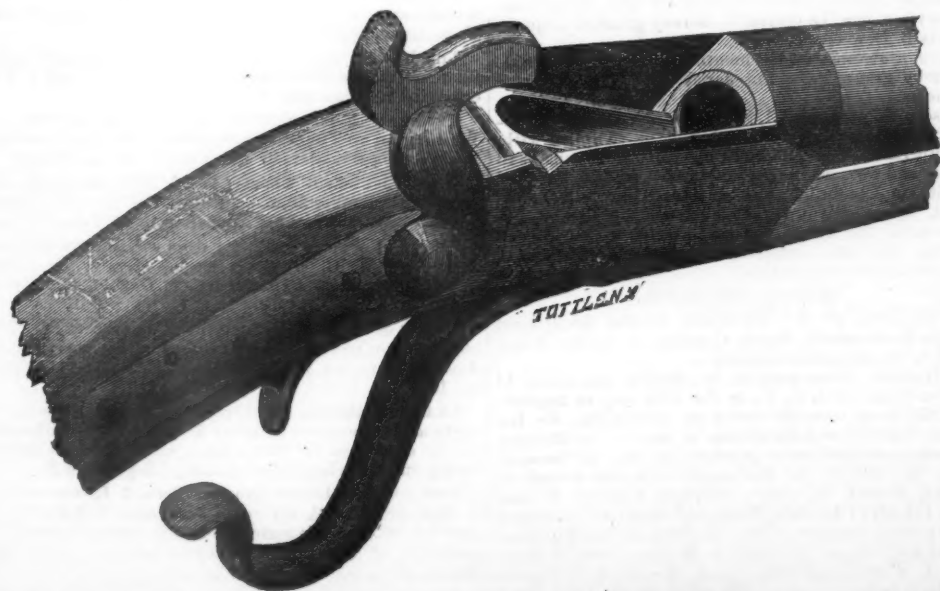
A limited number of three of these systems was ordered for trial in the hands of the troops. No decision has yet been made in favor of any one of these arms, although the time allotted for trial has expired.

The Peabody rifle has passed the ordeal of every com-

lently according to the force with which it is struck by the block.

The following cut shows the arm open and ready for loading:

During the trials of the New York board at Spring-



mittee of Europe. The Austrian committee reports at great length upon it, and concludes with: "1,882 shots

field, Mass., just completed, the Peabody was fired 23, 25, 29, and finally 32 times in one minute. Its perfect



## THE ARMY.

BATTERY A, Fourth Artillery, left Rutherford, N. C., September 21, and arrived at Charlotte, N. C., September 23, where it will be stationed during the winter.

BRIGADIER-GENERAL Augur, in commenting on the proceedings in two cases before a General Court-martial at Fort McPherson, Nebraska, of which Captain John Mix, Second Cavalry, was president, and Second Lieutenant Edward G. Stevens, Fifth Cavalry, judge-advocate, says: "The proceedings in this case are disapproved. The record fails to show what members were present, and what, if any, absent, on the day of trial of this prisoner. It is not enough to state in the record that 'the court proceeded to the trial' of the prisoner. It is essential that it should be so complete as to enable the reviewing authority to see at a glance that every requisite for the legal enforcement of the sentence has been adhered to. The inadvertence of the judge-advocate in making up this record has made it impossible to decide affirmatively that the court was composed of the legal number of officers."

CONTRACTS have been entered into between the chief quartermaster of the department and James Richmond, of Fort Stevenson, Dakota Territory, for carrying the United States military express and mail between Forts Rice and Stevenson, and between that officer and Robert G. Terry, of Fort Totten, Dakota Territory, for carrying the same between Forts Stevenson and Buford, for the term of one year, commencing October 1, 1871, twice per month each way on both routes. The dates of starting from each post are fixed as follows: Leave Rice for Stevenson on the 10th and 25th; returning, leave Stevenson on the 15th and 30th of each month. Leave Stevenson for Buford on the 1st and 15th; returning, leave Buford on the 5th and 20th of each month. All express and mail matter for Forts Stevenson and Buford should hereafter be addressed "via Sioux City, Iowa, and Missouri river."

A DESPATCH from San Francisco, September 25, reports that Captain Guy V. Henry's command of the Third Cavalry are making a splendid campaign through Eastern Arizona. They have destroyed many ranches and killed a number of Apaches. At latest advices the troops were near the Great Tonto Basin. The peace commissioners stopped at Los Cruces, New Mexico. Governor Safford and his company of 200 miners and Indian hunters had found rich gold placers in the Pinal country, and were still scouting after gold and Apaches. General Crook has instructed the commanders of the expedition not to kill Apache women or children under any circumstances, even if they are escaping. He declares himself satisfied that the war would not be prolonged beyond six months to effect the complete subjugation of the savages were it not that the Indians who would otherwise be compelled to surrender can now find refuge at their old nurseries on the reservations. The Coyote Apaches are actively assisting the troops in the war on the other Apache tribes; and it is reported that the White Mountain Apaches will also join the whites in the war.

IN accordance with orders from the headquarters Department of the Missouri, September 13, 1871, four companies of the Sixth Infantry, now at Fort Gibson, will proceed by rail to Fort Hays, and on arrival thereof will be furnished transportation to Fort Dodge and Camp Supply, two of the companies to relieve the two companies of Third Infantry at Fort Dodge, the other two companies to relieve the two companies of Third Infantry at Camp Supply. The two companies of the Sixth Infantry for Fort Dodge and Camp Supply, respectively, to be designated by the colonel of the regiment. The companies of the Third Infantry at Fort Dodge and Camp Supply, on being relieved by the companies of the Sixth Infantry, as above, will take the transportation of the companies thus relieving them, and march without delay to Fort Hays, Kansas, telegraphing to department headquarters in advance the time they will reach Fort Hays. The lieutenant-colonel Sixth Infantry will accompany the four companies of that regiment to Fort Dodge, where he will take post as commanding officer. The colonel of the Third Infantry, with headquarters of his regiment, will, as soon as he is relieved from the command of Fort Dodge by the lieutenant-colonel of the Sixth Infantry, proceed to Fort Hays (telegraphing to department headquarters his arrival there), and await further orders. Fort Gibson will be broken up as a military post, but will be temporarily retained by the Quartermaster's Department as a depot for such transportation and other means as may be necessary to enable paymasters and other officers to communicate with Fort Sill, for which purpose also one of the smallest companies of the Sixth

Infantry, to be designated by the colonel, will be left at Fort Gibson for the present, to furnish such escorts from time to time as may be needed, and to finish the repairs on the road to Fort Sill.

THE War Department has transmitted to the Secretary of the Interior for his information a copy of the correspondence between General Pope and Friend Hoag, the Indian superintendent, who sends a letter of Agent Tatum detailing the return of the forty-one mules stolen by the Kiowas, and stating that Kicking Bird and other Kiowa chiefs have made a strong appeal for the release of Satanta and Big Tree. On reaching General Sherman this correspondence was endorsed by him as follows:

Respectfully submitted to the Secretary of War, to ascertain the wishes of the Interior Department. In this case Satanta ought to have been hung, and that would have ended the trouble; but his sentence has been commuted to imprisonment for life, and I know these Kiowas well enough to see that they will be everlastingly pleading for his release. He should never be released, and I hope the War Department will never consent to his return to his tribe. As to Big Tree, I do not deem his imprisonment as essential, though he ought to keep Satanta company. With this exception, I approve of the action of Agent Tatum, and would advise him to treat the Kiowas as strictly as the Caddoes and other treaty Indians. Kicking Bird can keep the Kiowas peaceable if Satanta is out of the way, and I don't believe him sincere when he asks for his release, but that he is simply acting the part to maintain his influence with his own people.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending September 25, 1871.

Tuesday, September 19.

THE Quartermaster's Department will furnish the following-named men with transportation from the places set opposite their respective names to this city, to enable them to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the treasurer of the Soldiers' Home, District of Columbia: William C. Jones, formerly private of Battery G, Second Artillery, from San Francisco, Cal.; Charles Lawrence, formerly musician of Company H, Twenty-second Infantry, from Dayton, Ohio; William Lower, formerly private of Company B, Twenty-third Infantry, from Camp Warner, Oregon.

By direction of the President, Captain H. E. Alvord, Ninth Cavalry, is hereby relieved from duty at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., and will proceed to join his proper station.

By direction of the President, Private George L. Taylor, Company C, Third Cavalry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving.

Private James W. Halsall, Company C, Twentieth Infantry, now with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving. Leave of absence for six months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Loyall Farragut, Fifth Artillery.

Wednesday, September 20.

Musician George Klingensmith, now supposed to be at West Point, New York, on duty with Company E, Engineer Battalion, will be forwarded to Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, with a view to his assignment to some company in need of a musician. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon J. V. Lauderdale is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Arizona, and will proceed to New York city, reporting by letter, upon his arrival, to the Surgeon-General.

Leave of absence for six months, to take effect when his services can be spared, is hereby granted Captain Thomas B. Dewees, Second Cavalry.

Leave of absence for two months, from October 1, 1871, is hereby granted Captain Jared A. Smith, Corps of Engineers.

As soon as paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 329, August 23, 1871, from this office, has been complied with, the superintendent Mounted Recruiting Service will prepare and forward, under proper charge, two hundred recruits to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to the Second Cavalry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Thursday, September 21.

By direction of the President, Second Lieutenant Thomas S. Mumford, Ninth Cavalry, is hereby transferred to the Sixteenth Infantry.

A General Court-martial is hereby appointed to meet at West Point, N. Y., on the 26th day of September, 1871, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of Cadet George H. Evans, of the U. S. Military Academy, and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. Detail for the court: Captain Joseph S. Conrad, Second Infantry; Captain John S. Poland, Sixth Infantry; Captain Thomas C. Bradford, Ordnance Department; Captain Alfred E. Bates, Second Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Frederick A. Mahan, Corps of Engineers. First Lieutenant James M. Marshall, Fourth Artillery, judge-advocate. No other officers than those named can be assembled without manifest injury to the service.

Leave of absence for six months, to take effect when his services can be spared, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Captain C. B. McLellan, Sixth Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon J. B. Girard, in Special Orders No. 210, May 31, 1871, from this office, is hereby extended sixty days.

So much of Special Orders No. 317, paragraph 4, of August 16, 1871, from this office, as directs that Private William H. Yetter, Company G, Fourteenth Infantry, be discharged the service of the United States, is hereby revoked.

Special Order No. 128, September 1, 1871, from headquarters General Mounted Recruiting Service, St. Louis Depot, Missouri, granting First Lieutenant Moses Harris, First Cavalry, leave of absence for fifteen days, from September 5, 1871, is hereby confirmed.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry F. Clarke, Subsistence Department, is hereby authorized to visit the subsistence purchasing depots at St. Louis, Fort Leavenworth, Denver, the City of Salt Lake, and if necessary the headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, on duty connected with the Subsistence Department, upon completion of which he will return to his proper station.

Friday, September 22.

On receipt of this order, Superintendent John W. Nash (recently appointed) will proceed without delay to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and assume charge of the National Cemetery at that place. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By direction of the President, leave of absence for sixty days, in addition to the three months granted to the graduates of the Military Academy by paragraph 181, Army Regulations, is hereby granted Second Lieutenant John McA. Webster, Twenty-second Infantry.

So much of the unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 66, of October 10, 1870, from headquarters Department of Texas, as directs that Private Eli Bushwell (borne on rolls as Eli Bushnell), Company H, Tenth Infantry, now in confinement at Fort Jackson, Louisiana, "be confined at hard labor for the period of two years," is hereby so far remitted as to make the term of his confinement one year and six months, commencing October 10, 1870, the date of the promulgation of his sentence in orders.

Hospital Steward Oliver A. Bailey, U. S. Army, now at headquarters Department of the East, awaiting orders, will report in person without delay to the commanding officer Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania, for duty at that post. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

Hospital Steward George Kober, U. S. Army, now on duty at Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania, will report in person without delay to the Surgeon-General U. S. Army, Washington, D. C., for assignment to duty. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

So much of Special Orders No. 144, September 11, 1871, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, as authorizes [Captain Frederick E. Grossmann, Twentieth Infantry, to remain in San Francisco so long as may be necessary to make answer in the Fourth District Court of California to a complaint entered against him for actions done in his official capacity as United States special Indian agent in Arizona, is hereby confirmed.

Saturday, September 23.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant A. D. B. Smead, Third Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 59, February 10, 1871, from this office, is hereby extended sixty days.

By direction of the President, so much of Special Orders No. 351, paragraph 1, of September 8, 1871, from this office, as relates to Second Lieutenant Thomas W. Lord, Twentieth Infantry, is hereby revoked.

### ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Captain W. S. Worth, Eighth Infantry, September 21.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Lieutenant-Colonel E. S. Otis, Twenty-second Infantry, September 15.

By direction of the President, leave of absence for three months was granted Post Chaplain George P. Van Wyck, U. S. Army, September 21.

THE leave of absence granted First Lieutenant L. A. Chamberlin, First Artillery, by his post commander, was extended ten days September 21.

GENERAL Belknap, Secretary of War, returned to Washington on Thursday last, from a brief visit to New York, some particulars of which are given elsewhere.

FIRST Lieutenant Thomas Ward, First Artillery, was detailed September 20 a member of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted to First Lieutenant F. C. Grugan, Second Cavalry, by orders from headquarters Department of Dakota, September 16.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, to take effect when his place can be supplied by another officer, was granted Assistant Surgeon W. S. Tremaine, U. S. Army, September 18.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, was granted Captain Daingerfield Parker, Third Infantry, September 2.

THE leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant C. L. Best, Jr., First Artillery, in paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 193, current series, from the headquarters Department of the East, was extended ten days September 22.

FIRST Lieutenant J. H. Sands, Sixth Cavalry, was relieved September 2 from duty as member of the General Court-martial ordered to convene at Fort Hays, Kansas,



and First Lieutenant John W. Chickering, Sixth Cavalry, detailed as a member.

FIRST Lieutenant E. B. Savage, Eighth Infantry, received orders from the headquarters Department of the East, September 27, to proceed October 2, to Fort Hamilton New York Harbor, and report, in arrest, to the commanding officer of that post.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Surgeon J. C. McKee, U. S. Army, September 27, on the condition that he makes an arrangement satisfactory to the commanding officer Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor, to provide medical attendance during his absence.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was granted Assistant Surgeon J. P. Kimball, U. S. Army, September 14, with permission to apply through the proper channels for an extension of sixty days, the leave to take effect upon the arrival at Fort Stevenson of another medical officer.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days was granted Surgeon J. F. Head, U. S. Army, medical director of the department, in orders from the headquarters Department of Dakota, September 16. During the temporary absence of Surgeon Head, Surgeon A. Heger, U. S. Army, will perform the duties of medical director.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon A. H. Mann, U. S. Army, having reported at the headquarters Department of Dakota for assignment, was ordered September 15 to proceed without delay to Fort Stevenson, Dakota Territory, and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

MAJOR G. W. Candee, paymaster U. S. Army, was ordered September 15 to make payments to October 31, 1871, in the order named, of the troops stationed at Forts Buford, Stevenson, Rice, Grand River and Cheyenne Agencies, Fort Sully, Lower Brulé and Whetstone Agencies, and Fort Randall, Dakota Territory.

HOSPITAL Steward Emil Wagner, U. S. Army, was relieved September 21 from duty at the camp on Limestone Creek, southeastern Kansas, and ordered to proceed without delay to Santa Fé, N. M., reporting upon arrival to the commanding officer District of New Mexico for assignment to duty.

FIRST Lieutenant Asa Bird Gardner, First Artillery, assistant judge-advocate of the Department, was ordered September 21 to proceed to Portland, Me., to attend to the case of Privates Severy and Harrington, Battery M, Fifth Artillery, in the U. S. Circuit Court. Upon completion of this duty he will return to headquarters Department of the East.

MAJOR James P. Roy, Sixth Infantry, now at the headquarters Department of the Missouri, on leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 42, from headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, dated June 15, 1871, was ordered September 30 to proceed to Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, for duty in connection with the movement of troops required by General Orders No. 22, current series.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending September 26: Captain C. W. Howell, Corps of Engineers; Second Lieutenant C. R. Ward, Tenth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant G. E. Bacon, Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant Horatio Potter, Jr., Seventeenth Infantry; Captain Joseph Rendlebrock, Fourth Cavalry; Major-General G. L. Hartsuff, U. S. Army; Captain F. S. Dodge, Ninth Cavalry.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Independence, Massachusetts, September 25. Detail for the court: Major W. Hays, Fifth Artillery; Captain D. H. Kinzie, Fifth Artillery; First Lieutenant John McClellan, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant G. E. Sage, Fifth Artillery; Second Lieutenant W. B. Weir, Fifth Artillery. First Lieutenant F. Robinson, Fifth Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, October 2. Detail for the court: Major M. M. Blunt, Fourteenth Infantry; Captain F. D. Ogilby, Eighth Infantry; First Lieutenant W. E. Dougherty, First Infantry; First Lieutenant W. C. Beach, Eleventh Infantry; First Lieutenant J. W. Dillenback, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant John Pope, Jr., First Artillery. Second Lieutenant H. L. Harris, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at David's Island, New York Harbor, September 18. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. Wallen, Eighth Infantry; Captain H. M. Lazelle, Eighth Infantry; Captain E. W. H. Read, Eighth Infantry; Captain G. M. Brayton, Eighth Infantry; Captain F. D. Ogilby, Eighth Infantry; First Lieutenant C. F. Loshe, Eighth Infantry; First Lieutenant F. T. Adams, Eighth Infantry; Second Lieutenant John O'Connell, Eighth Infantry; Second Lieutenant W. H. McMinn, Eighth Infantry. Captain W. S. Worth, Eighth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial is appointed to meet at Fort Hamilton, New York Harbor, October 3, for the trial of First Lieutenant E. B. Savage, Eighth Infantry, and such other persons as may be brought before it by authority from the headquarters Department of the East. Detail for the court: Major John Hamilton, First Artillery; Captain H. W. Closson, First Artillery; Captain W. M. Graham, First Artillery; Captain R. T. Frank, First Artillery; Captain F. E. Taylor, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. P. Sanger, First Artillery; First Lieutenant J. H. Counsellman, adjutant First Artillery; First Lieutenant R. G. Shaw, First Artillery; First Lieutenant F. C. Nichols, First Artillery. Captain W. L. Haskin, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

PARAGRAPH 1, Special Orders No. 167, current series, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, has been amended to read that Acting Assistant Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, will be relieved from duty with the Sixth Infantry upon its arrival

at Fort Dodge, Kansas, and will report to the commanding officer of that post for temporary duty; Hospital Steward Charles Kotzenberg, U. S. Army, having reported in person at these headquarters, was ordered September 22 to the camp of the Sixth Cavalry, near Fort Hays, Kansas, reporting upon arrival to commanding officer for assignment to duty; and Assistant Surgeon S. G. Cowdrey, U. S. Army, on the same date, relieved from duty at Fort Gibson, C. N. He will proceed to Camp Supply, I. T., with the companies of the Sixth Infantry now under orders for that post, and report upon his arrival there to the commanding officer for assignment to duty, relieving Assistant Surgeon J. A. Fitzgerald, U. S. Army, who, on being relieved, will proceed to Fort Harker, Kansas, and report to the commanding officer for temporary duty.

THE following were elected members of the Military Order, Loyal Legion, U. S., Commandery of the State of California, "first class," at the stated meeting held on Wednesday evening, June 7: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel E. R. Platt, U. S. Army, captain Second Artillery; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Smedberg, U. S. Army, captain retired; Brevet Major H. G. Brown, U. S. Army, first lieutenant Twelfth Infantry. At a stated meeting held Wednesday evening, July 5, there were elected as companions of the first class: Captain Charles S. Tripler, Twelfth Infantry; Chaplain Daniel Kendig, U. S. Army; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James H. Nelson, major and paymaster U. S. Army; Captain G. C. Smith, assistant quartermaster U. S. Army; Lieutenant-Commander Alfred Hopkins, U. S. Navy; Brevet Major-General John F. Miller, brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers; Captain T. H. Goodman, Second Cavalry, California Volunteers; Captain J. H. Withington, captain One Hundred and Ninety-eighth Infantry, Pennsylvania Volunteers; Lieutenant Rodney S. Vedder, quartermaster Eighteenth Infantry, New York Volunteers. At a stated meeting held Wednesday evening, August 2, there was elected as a companion of the first class, Brevet Brigadier-General O. H. La Grange, colonel First Cavalry, Wisconsin Volunteers. At the stated meeting of July 5 the following permanent officers of the Commandery were elected: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Smedberg, captain U. S. Army, retired, Recorder; Brevet Brigadier-General C. G. Sawtelle, major and quartermaster U. S. Army, Registrar. At the same meeting Passed Assistant Surgeon H. P. Babcock, late of the U. S. Navy, presented his transfer to the Commandery State of California, from the Commandery State of Pennsylvania. This Commandery now numbers twenty-seven companions.

#### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, Sept. 26, 1871.

##### General Orders No. 60.

THE following promotions and appointments in the Army of the United States, made by the President since the publication of General Orders No. 55, of 1871, and up to September 24, 1871, are announced:

##### I.—PROMOTIONS.

First Regiment of Cavalry.—Second Lieutenant Edward C. Bartlett, to be first lieutenant, August 9, 1871, vice Collins, dismissed. Company C.

Third Regiment of Artillery.—Second Lieutenant Sedgwick Pratt, to be first lieutenant, September 21, 1871, vice Dakin, deceased. Company D.

Fourth Regiment of Artillery.—First Lieutenant Harry C. Cushing, to be captain, August 22, 1871, vice Beach, retired from active service. Company C. Second Lieutenant Samuel R. Jones, to be first lieutenant, August 22, 1871, vice Cushing, promoted. Company H.

Fifth Regiment of Artillery.—Second Lieutenant Ocran H. Howard, to be first lieutenant, September 1, 1871, vice Remak, resigned. Company M.

Seventh Regiment of Infantry.—First Lieutenant James M. J. Sanno, to be captain, May 15, 1871, vice Ballantine, resigned. Company E.

Ninth Regiment of Infantry.—Second Lieutenant Edward Hoppy, to be first lieutenant, September 15, 1871, vice Shepard, resigned. Company C.

Twelfth Regiment of Infantry.—First Lieutenant Alexander B. MacGowan, to be captain, August 30, 1871, vice Hoge, wholly retired. Company D. Second Lieutenant James Halloran, to be first lieutenant, August 30, 1871, vice MacGowan, promoted. Company A.

Thirteenth Regiment of Infantry.—First Lieutenant James T. McGinnis, to be captain, August 31, 1871, vice Brown, retired from active service. Company I. Second Lieutenant John B. Guthrie, Jr., to be first lieutenant, September 1, 1871, vice Pratt, appointed regimental adjutant. Company A. Second Lieutenant Harry G. Cavanaugh, to be first lieutenant, September 4, 1871, vice Parry, deceased. Company E.

Sixteenth Regiment of Infantry.—Major James Van Voast, of the Eighteenth Infantry, to be lieutenant-colonel, August 16, 1871, vice Granger, promoted to the Twenty-first Infantry. First Lieutenant Clayton Hale, to be captain, September 24, 1871, vice Kelly, deceased. Company H. Second Lieutenant Fredrik Rosenorantz, to be first lieutenant, August 31, 1871, vice McCoy, resigned. Company C. Second Lieutenant George B. Pickett, to be first lieutenant, September 24, 1871, vice Hale, promoted. Company I.

Eighteenth Regiment of Infantry.—Captain William H. Brown, of the Twenty-first Infantry, to be major, August 16, 1871, vice Van Voast, promoted to the Sixteenth Infantry.

Twentieth Regiment of Infantry.—First Lieutenant William S. McCaskey, to be captain, September 5, 1871, vice Mason, promoted to the Twenty-first Infantry. Company G.

Twenty-first Regiment of Infantry.—Lieutenant-Colonel Robert S. Granger, of the Sixteenth Infantry, to be colonel, August 16, 1871, vice Stoneman, retired from active service. Captain Edwin C. Mason, of the Twentieth Infantry, to be major, September 5, 1871, vice Cogswell, retired from active service. First Lieutenant George H. Barton, to be captain, August 16, 1871, vice Brown, promoted to the Eighteenth Infantry. Company C. Second Lieutenant Edward R. Theller, to be first lieutenant, August 31, 1871, vice Evans, appointed regimental adjutant. Company I.

##### II. APPOINTMENTS.

Eleventh Regiment of Infantry.—Cadet James E. Short-

elle, to be second lieutenant, June 12, 1871, vice Sunderland, dropped. Company —. Since deceased.

Military Academy.—Reverend John Forsyth, D. D., of New York, to be chaplain and professor of ethics and law, July 28, 1871, vice French, deceased.

##### III. TRANSFERS.

Second Lieutenant Payette W. Roe, from the Twenty-fourth Infantry to the Third Infantry, August 4, 1871. Second Lieutenant Julius H. Pardoe from the Twenty-fifth Infantry to the Twenty-third Infantry, August 4, 1871.

This order arrives so late that we are compelled to postpone the publication of the list of retirements and casualties until another week.—[ED. JOURNAL.]

#### WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, August 30, 1871.

##### General Court-martial Orders No. 16.

I. Before a General Court-martial which convened at Louisville, Kentucky, May 8, 1871, pursuant to Special Orders No. 87, headquarters Department of the South, Louisville, Kentucky, April 27, 1871, and of which Major T. J. Haines, commissary of subsistence U. S. Army, is president, was arraigned and tried H. Walworth Smith, late first lieutenant Seventh Cavalry.

Charge I.—"Embezzlement, in violation of the act of Congress approved March 2, 1863, entitled 'An act to prevent and punish frauds upon the Government of the United States.'"  
Specification—"In that H. Walworth Smith, while first lieutenant Seventh U. S. Cavalry, being in the land forces of the United States, and acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, and ex-officio a disbursing officer, and having as such a large amount of public funds in his possession for disbursement, did embezzle, and knowingly and willfully misappropriate and apply to his own use and benefit the sum of twelve hundred dollars, more or less, public money of the United States, and furnished to be used in the military service of the United States. This at or near Camp Sturgis, near Fort Hays, Kansas, in the State of Kansas, on or about the 13th day of October, 1870."

Charge II.—"Desertion, in violation of the twentieth Article of War."

Specification—"In that First Lieutenant H. Walworth Smith, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, a commissioned officer in the military service of the United States, did desert the same on or about the 13th day of October, 1870, and remain so absent until he surrendered himself to the commanding officer of Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, on or about the 16th day of March, 1871. This at or near Camp Sturgis, near Fort Hays, Kansas, in the State of Kansas, on or about the date above specified."

To which charges and specifications the accused H. Walworth Smith, late first lieutenant Seventh Cavalry, pleaded "Not guilty."

Finding.—The court, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused H. Walworth Smith, late first lieutenant Seventh Cavalry, as follows:

Charge I.—Of the specification, "Not guilty;" of the charge, "Not guilty."

Charge II.—Of the specification, "Guilty;" of the charge, "Guilty."

Sentence.—And the court does therefore sentence him, H. Walworth Smith, late first lieutenant Seventh Cavalry, "to be dismissed the service of the United States, and to be confined for one year in such military prison as the proper authority may designate."

II. In conformity with the sixty-fifth of the Rules and Articles of War the proceedings of the General Court-martial in the foregoing case have been forwarded to the Secretary of War, and by him submitted to the President of the United States.

The proceedings upon the first charge are approved; the findings disapproved as contrary to the evidence.

As announced in General Orders No. 46, Adjutant-General's Office, May 1, 1871, this officer, in conformity with section 17, act of Congress, July 15, 1870, "was dropped for desertion," January 19, 1871. When arraigned therefore he was not in the military service of the United States. The jurisdiction of the court upon the first charge attaches to him, nevertheless, under the act defining the offense, and which provides that any person "who shall commit any violation of this act, and shall afterward receive his discharge or dismissal from the service, shall, notwithstanding such discharge or dismissal, continue to be liable to be arrested or held for trial and sentence by court-martial in the same manner and to the same extent as if he had not received such discharge or been dismissed." The absence of any like statutory provision to render an officer, after his dismissal, amenable to trial by court-martial for desertion, leaves the proceedings upon the second charge without legal warrant.

The enactment recited, and the similar acts of March 16, 1862, and of January 29, 1813, prolonging the jurisdiction of courts-martial over enlisted men whose term of service may expire while they are absent in desertion are held to show legislative recognition of the general rule to which the Military Department of the Government also has uniformly adhered in practice, to wit: that officers or soldiers after they have been regularly discharged from the military service, or after their term of service has expired, unless proceedings against them have been commenced before such expiration, are not (except where otherwise provided by statute) within the jurisdiction of a court-martial for offenses committed by them while in the service.

The proceedings under the second charge are therefore disapproved as void *ab initio*.

The sentence is disapproved.

H. H. Walworth Smith, late first lieutenant Seventh Cavalry, will be discharged from custody.

By order of the Secretary of War,  
E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

##### CHANGES OF STATIONS.

THE following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Company I, Second Cavalry, from Bagdad, Ky., to Shelbyville, Ky., September 11. Ordered.

Company D, Seventh Cavalry, from Mount Vernon, Ky., to Columbia, S. C., September 13. Ordered.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Shanghai *Courier* at Taku writes to say that a moat is being dug round the forts; two ships have arrived from Shanghai with an armament of heavy guns and ammunition, and everything looks like preparation for war. Another gentleman states that in coming down the river from Tientsin he saw heavy guns being placed in position at the entrenched camp recently formed on the Peiho, some miles above Taku, so that the passage of the river is completely commanded by intersecting fires.

It will be remembered that the Germans lost one flag in the late war, and that Menotti Garibaldi, who commanded the French troops, took pains to inform his antagonist that it was not taken in battle, but found on the field covered with the bodies of its guard. The Emperor William has presented new colors to the battalion on the ground that the loss "was one of those lamentable events which are the result of untoward circumstances, and for which no one can be held responsible. The flag was neither taken by a victorious enemy nor abandoned by a discouraged troop of soldiers; its position on the battlefield, amid the corpses of its brave defenders, bears honorable testimony to the character of the men before whom it was borne until the approach of night hid it from the eyes of its guardians."



## TORPEDO EXPERIMENTS.

GENERAL Abbott exhibited before General A. A. Humphreys, in his late inspecting tour in the vicinity of New York, a series of very interesting experiments with torpedoes. We quote from the *Herald's* report:

This part of the programme being concluded, General Abbott arranged that Secretary Belknap, Generals Sherman, Humphreys, and McDowell should enter his barge and the remainder of the visitors should return to the steamer for the purpose of witnessing the torpedo experiments he was about to make between Fort Schuyler and Willett's Point. This was carried out, and the General and part of his staff proceeded out on the bay with the materials necessary for carrying out the project. Torpedo No. 1, which was made up of one hundred pounds of powder, was sunk in thirty-three feet of water and attached to General Abbott's barge by means of the electric cable. At a given signal the steamer sheered out of the way and warned all passing vessels. The barge containing the four gentlemen above referred to was pulled off to a safe distance, and the crowd on board the steamer, composed now partly of ladies taken on board at Willett's Point, who had been invited to partake of the elegant luncheon provided by General Humphreys, became excited, and in a few seconds a terrible report was heard, three immense columns of water ascended high into the air at different angles, causing the water to boil at the surface, and as they fell a magnificent rainbow was formed by the falling spray. The sensation on board the steamer was as though the boat had been struck from beneath, while the collapse of the water created a second and distinct concussion through the air. Torpedo No. 2 consisted of four pounds of gun cotton in a wooden frame, and sunk thirty-three feet also. When the spark was applied scarcely any report was heard, but the water boiled violently, and the shock felt on the water was terrific, showing that this would have done fearful execution to the bottom of a craft sailing over it. Torpedo No. 3 was one hundred pounds of common mortar powder sunk to a depth of seventy feet. After the fire had been communicated one might imagine there was a whirlpool or a boiling spring. The water did not ascend very high, but the shock was that of a hundred pieces of artillery being discharged together, and caused the ladies to start and the timbers of the steamer to creak. Torpedo No. 4 created great excitement and some little alarm. Fifteen minutes elapsed before it was ready, and then everybody wanted to know why the generals rowed so far off, and why General Abbott kept so far away with his battery. The torpedo was composed of one hundred pounds of powder placed only eight feet under the surface. One of these, tried some time ago, throw the water up a distance of 267 feet, according to the instrument used for measuring these things, and this fact being made known, it left an uneasy impression. Every precaution having been taken, General Abbott rowed off and applied the spark. Anything more grand and at the same time more terrible than this can scarcely be conceived. The instant the fire was communicated a body of water such as is represented in Eastern prints caused by water spouts, ascended at least two hundred feet in the air, carrying with it portions of the torpedo frame, which it scattered far and near, throwing some pieces 300 yards. A large whirlpool was also formed at its base, the influence of which was felt in the barge at a great distance. This one gave general satisfaction, Major King asserting that if a vessel had been over it, it would have broken her in two. The explosion of a small raft completed the experiments.

## PAYMASTER HODGE.

The *World* says of Major Hodge, in a letter from Baltimore:

William Schley, Esq., perhaps, with the exception of Hon. Reverdy Johnson, the most eminent of the legal profession in our State, had been retained by the friends of the criminal to defend him; but he persistently refuses to make any defence, and abides by all the consequences of his voluntary and free confession as originally made. His distinguished counsel had an interview with him on Saturday, and notwithstanding his efforts to prevail upon him to allow all honorable means to be used that could be brought to his aid, he still insisted that, having grossly abused the confidence reposed in him by appropriating moneys belonging to the Government to his own use, the least he could do under the circumstances was frankly to confess his guilt and accept with as much fortitude as possible the punishment which it deserves. His counsel states that he seems much more exercised in reference to the effects of his conduct and situation upon the present condition of his wife, whose health just now is peculiarly delicate, and apprehends constantly that her life will be endangered at such a juncture by the grief and mortification produced by the knowledge of his defalcation. He bewails his situation more on her account than his own, and, while refusing to urge any defence and willing to suffer, thinks only of and appealed to Mr. Schley to save her life, and he would resignedly accept the penalty for his terrible fault. He is about forty years of age, and has, I am told, three interesting young children, who, with his wife, must inevitably bear the disgrace consequent upon his reckless course. His counsel, whose sympathies appear to be deeply interested in his behalf, from all the surroundings of his case, doubts the legality of punishment by imprisonment in the penitentiary, because of the trial by a military instead of a civil court; and that probably will be the line of argument used, which, together with his frank and positive declarations of guilt, and his determination to surrender every dollar's worth of property held in the name of his wife and himself, may mitigate the severity of his punishment.

The court-martial for the trial of Paymaster Hodge convened at Fort McHenry September 26. There was a

full court, Major-General George G. Meade presiding. On being arraigned, the prisoner, through his counsel, Hon. William Schley, of Baltimore, pleaded guilty to all the charges. Mr. Schley made a brief address to the court. The sentence of the court will not be known until promulgated by the War Department. The exact amount which Hodge is officially charged with embezzling is \$445,406 60, at various times from September, 1869, to September, 1871, in sums of from \$500 to \$50,000. After pleading guilty, Mr. Schley read a paper of confession signed by the prisoner, but it embodied no new facts or matters of interest not mentioned in his letter to General Brice of September 10, acknowledging his embezzlement.

Assistant U. S. District Attorney Purdy, of New York, has made an affidavit from information and belief, charging James A. Polhemus and Eugene J. Jackson, composing the firm of Polhemus & Jackson, brokers, at No. 66 Exchange Place, with having, on or about the 20th of April last, advised J. Ledyard Hodge, the defaulting Army paymaster, to commit the crime of embezzlement, of which he acknowledged himself guilty, and with having conspired with him to commit that crime. On this affidavit warrants were issued against the accused, and United States Deputy Marshals Parvis and Robinson arrested Jackson in his office. He was taken before United States Commissioner Stilwell and held in \$25,000 bail for an examination. His partner is sick in bed, and has been for several months, and will not be arrested at present. The present arrest is simply on the charge of advising and co-operating in the embezzlement. Another arrest of Jackson will be made on the charge of conspiring with Hodge to commit the alleged crimes. On this charge the bail of \$10,000 has been fixed. Mr. Jackson and his counsel strongly assert his innocence and court a searching investigation.

BEFORE a General Court-martial which convened at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and of which Colonel T. L. Crittenden, Seventeenth Infantry, is president, Second Lieutenant Edwin Turnock, Twentieth Infantry, was arraigned and tried on the charge of "disobedience of orders, in violation of the ninth Article of War." The specification alleges that the accused, while on duty in charge of an escort for the protection of a surveying party of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, from Fort Ransom, Dakota Territory, to a point near Fort Rice, Dakota Territory, on the Missouri river, in pursuance of special orders from the headquarters post of Fort Wadsworth, did leave said surveying party with his whole escort without proper authority and against the wishes of the chief engineer in charge of said surveying party, and in violation of the instructions contained in the order of his superior and commanding officer, Captain J. C. Bates, Twentieth Infantry. To which charge and specification the accused pleaded as follows: To the specification, "Guilty, except the words 'without proper authority and,' and the words, 'and in violation of the instructions contained in the foregoing order of his superior and commanding officer, Captain J. C. Bates, Twentieth Infantry,' and to the excepted words, 'Not Guilty.'" To the charge, "Not Guilty." The court sustained this plea and acquitted the accused. In remarking upon this finding, General Hancock says:

While confirming the proceedings in this case, the major-general commanding deems it proper to make known that he does not concur with the court in the conclusions at which it has arrived, and which are expressed in the findings. These conclusions appear to be based upon a mis-construction of paragraph 2, Special Orders No. 67, current series, from these headquarters, which Lieutenant Turnock received as part of his instructions. Were this order susceptible of different interpretations, it would manifestly have been the duty of Lieutenant Turnock to have asked for further instructions before abandoning, against the wishes of its chief engineer, the surveying party, for the safety of which the escort was detailed.

The probable length of absence of the escort, as mentioned in the order, and the fact that it is particularly stated that "any additional escort required for Mr. Thomas's party while en route between points situated on the Missouri river," would be supplied by post commanders on that river, are in themselves two points which distinctly indicate the intent of the order, and which as distinctly conflict with the interpretation which Lieutenant Turnock claims to have placed upon it.

When the accused pleaded to the facts as alleged in the specification, and based his defence for his action upon what he considered to be an ambiguity of phraseology in his orders, the prosecution should have, in the opinion of the reviewing officer, called as a witness the chief engineer of the surveying party, Mr. Thomas, to show that he remonstrated against the interpretation placed upon his orders by the accused. Had the engineer with his party returned to the Red River, in the continuation of his reconnaissance, by a route parallel to the one he took from Fort Ransom to the Missouri river, and required the services of an escort, as was contemplated when the escort was detailed, the absurdity of the accused's interpretation of his orders would have become manifest, from the necessity which would have devolved upon the commanding officer of Fort Rice to take the responsibility, without any orders, of weakening his important post by detaching an escort to accompany the surveying party over practically the same route travelled by the accused only a few days in advance, and which route he had to take to return to his station, the Rice escort having then to return to its station, making a totally unnecessary march of several hundred miles. It was evident there was just as much necessity for an escort returning as going, and this fact no one knew better than the accused.

The orders from these headquarters stated that the escort would receive at Fort Ransom instructions where to join the surveying party. From the very nature of the service upon which this party was engaged, these instructions must come from its chief, and the commanding officer of Fort Wadsworth was not warranted in stating in his post orders that the officer in command of the escort would receive further instructions at Fort Ransom from department headquarters, especially as he did not inform the department commander that such instructions were necessary, nor that any ambiguity was found as to the intent of the orders.

The department commander trusts that the good fortune of the accused in escaping the consequences of so grave an error of judgment will serve as a sufficient warning, and that in the future, when he finds difficulty in interpreting his orders, he will take the proper means, especially when time serves, as it did in this case, to ascertain the intent thereof before taking action, which might cause much injury to the interests of the public service.

The acquittal of Lieutenant Turnock is confirmed. He will be released from arrest and restored to duty.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

## VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

B. EDME CHASSAING, formerly chief engineer U. S. Navy, is now engineer-in-chief of the Navy of the Argentine Republic.

THE new examining and retiring board, of which Rear-Admiral William Rogers Taylor is president, will meet at the Navy Department next Monday, October 2.

COMMODORE C. R. P. Rodgers returned from Europe in the mail steamer *Russia* this week, stopping in New York for a day or two only, en route to Washington, where he is ordered to report.

THE resignation of Lieutenant-Commander Marston Niles has been accepted, to take effect on the 25th of December, 1871. Mr. Niles is now in Dresden on leave of absence. We understand that he intends to enter upon the profession of the law.

THE imperial Russian squadron, which has been commissioned by the Czar for the duty of conveying and escorting his Highness the Grand Duke Alexis to New York, sailed from Falmouth for its destination at half-past two o'clock on the afternoon of September 26.

THE daily papers report that the battery at Fort Tompkins put a ball through the bonnet of the jib of the pilot-boat No. 18 as the latter was coming up the bay, on the evening of September 25. The boat was distant from the battery about one mile and a half at the time.

THE *Franklin*, flagship of the European fleet, recently ordered home, will report at Boston. The *Richmond*, of the same fleet, will arrive at Philadelphia, and the *Portsmouth*, from the South Atlantic fleet, will report at New York. All of these vessels are expected home between the 15th of October and the 1st of November.

THE *Colorado*, flagship of the Asiatic squadron, arrived at Yokohama, Japan, on the morning of August 20. While passing through the Straits of Simonoseki, the entrance to the Inland Sea, she struck on a rock and scraped some of the copper off her bottom. The Admiral intends docking her at Yokohama, the Japanese Imperial dockyard, where she is to be thoroughly overhauled. Mr. Low, United States Minister to China, accompanied by his wife and child, arrived at Yokohama in the *Colorado*. The disposition of the other vessels of the fleet is as follows: *Alaska*, Commander Blake, is at Nagasaki; *Benicia*, Commander Kimberly, at Chefoo; *Palos*, at New Chang; *Monocacy* and *Ashuelot* at Shanghai.

FROM the Boston Navy-yard we learn that the *Wabash* will be ready to receive her officers on the 1st of October, and will probably then go into commission. They have half a crew for her on board the receiving ship *Ohio*, and were shipping at the rate of twenty to thirty a day at the rendezvous until the special detail for her was stopped. The *Worcester* is in commission, but under repairs that will occupy two months. Orders have been it is rumored that Captain Foxhall A. Parker is to be ordered to the Boston yard as the executive, on his arrival in the *Franklin*, which he is now commanding. He left the Boston yard about a year since to assume the command of that ship. His father, of the same name, was commandant of that same station several years.

THE following is a list of officers ordered to the *Wabash*, preparing for sea at Boston as the flagship of the European fleet: Captain R. W. Shufeldt, commanding; Captain William G. Temple, chief of staff; Lieutenant-Commander Thomas L. Swann, executive; lieutenant-commanders, G. W. Hayward, Charles McGregor, B. H. McCalla, and G. F. F. Wilde; lieutenants, R. C. Hooker and Franklin Hanford; masters, L. C. Logan, W. H. Reeder, R. T. Jasper, and W. J. Barnette; ensigns, S. C. Paine, C. R. Brown, N. E. Mason, and A. G. Berry; fleet surgeon, E. Shippen; passed assistant surgeon, G. F. Winslow; assistant surgeon, Melancthon L. Ruth; fleet paymaster, James Fulton; fleet engineer, C. H. Loring; first assistant engineers, D. P. McCartney and T. M. Jones; second assistant engineer, C. W. Rae; chaplain, George D. Henderson; midshipmen, C. H. Geutsch, Chauncey Thomas, C. W. Bartlett, T. C. Wood, G. L. Selden, A. C. Baker, J. T. Edson; boatswain, Charles Miller; gunner, Charles W. Homer; carpenter, R. A. Williams; sailmaker, Francis Boom.

AN Eastern paper has the following remarks upon the Korean question and our action in it: "It remains to be seen whether this incident [the burial of Lieutenant McKee] will not close the story of the American expedition to Korea. We trust it may not, in the interest of every foreigner whose business compels him to continue as a resident in China or Japan, for we are convinced, unless some further action is promptly taken, our position in this part of the world will be anything but an enviable one. In our opinion, however, that the American Government will authorize no further action, we have a precedent to go upon, which will doubtless be followed in the present case. Four years ago a somewhat similar movement occurred in the island of Formosa, where shipwrecked seamen were not always treated with the consideration their misfortunes merited. An American gunboat was fired on when making inquiries concerning the missing crew of the *Rover*, and the insult was avenged by an expedition which simply resulted in the death of Lieutenant Mackenzie. With naval honors the body of the deceased was embarked on board a man-of-war, and all foreign residents on the China coast waited impatiently for some further development of the quarrel. They waited in vain, however, for the promised reinforcements never came, and the Formosa difficulty, of which a very different solution was anticipated, terminated with the embarkation of its victim's body on its homeward route. Will the em-



barkation of the remains of Lieutenant McKee in like manner be the closing scene of the expedition to Corea? In the cause of humanity and of civilization we trust it may not."

FUNERAL services were held at the Brooklyn Navy-yard on the afternoon of September 26, in honor of the four assistant engineers, George W. McGowan, H. W. Meriden, A. Mitchell, and Charles Sponberg, who perished in Charleston Harbor, on the monitor *Weehawken*, founded December 6, 1863. The bones of the deceased were collected in a small box and deposited in a rosewood casket, heavily mounted with silver. The casket reposed upon a bier in the Equipment Department building, and was covered with a black cloth pall, over which was thrown the Union Jack, while a wreath and cross of tuberoses and immortelles were placed at the head and foot of the bier. Upon the lid of the casket was noticed a large silver plate, upon which was engraved the following inscription:

This coffin contains the remains of four officers of the U. S. Navy, attached to the *Weehawken*, which founded off Charleston, S. C., December 6, 1863: H. W. Meriden, third assistant engineer; Augustus Mitchell, third assistant engineer; George W. McGowan, acting third assistant engineer; and Charles Sponberg, acting third assistant engineer.

At noon the funeral procession formed in front of the building where the remains were lying, guarded by a detachment of marines. In a few moments the casket, borne by the following pall-bearers, was brought from the building, the band from the *Vermont* playing "Auld Lang Syne." Lieutenant Field and DeLong, First Assistant Engineers Olson and Magee, Assistant Paymaster McGowan, and Assistant Surgeon Scott. The funeral cortege, headed by the marine band, a little after 12 o'clock, took up the line of march for the Navy-yard chapel in the order given below:

Band.  
Detachment of Marines.  
Sailors from the *men-of-war*.  
Pall-bearers. Casket. Pall-bearers.  
Guard of Honor.  
Delegation from Sylvan Lodge No. 275, F. and A. M.  
Friends and Relatives.

The burial service of the Protestant Episcopal Church was read by Chaplains Henderson and Carmichael; the latter clergyman also read the fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians. After the service was read and a brief sermon delivered by Chaplain Henderson, the remains were borne to the cemetery, the band playing the Dead March from "Saul," and were deposited in the grave, the detachment of marines firing the customary funeral volleys. Lieutenant-Commander John Weidman was in charge of the funeral arrangements, and Captain Stillman of the escort of marines. Among the distinguished naval officers present were Rear-Admiral Melancton Smith, in command of the post, Captains Ransom and Barrett, Commanders Harmony and Braine, Lieutenant-Commanders Hooker and Reed, Chief Engineers Wood and Sewell. The father, sister, and cousin of Assistant Engineer Meriden were there, as was also the mother of Assistant Engineer Mitchell. The rain continued to fall during the entire march, and the gloomy surroundings appeared to add solemnity to the last rites of the dead officers.

#### COREAN REPLY TO INQUIRIES OF THE U. S. STEAMER WACHUSETT.

The intendant of circuit in the Hwang Hae district, Corea, and *ex officio* inspector of the Imperial Board of Directors, makes the following reply to the commander of the steamer *Wachusett*, anchored on our coast, off the district of Chang-Yuen, viz.: That he has examined the captain's letter of the 18th inst., forwarding a communication which you simply wish to be transmitted to my sovereign, and proposing to wait the reply of the Minister of the Frontier. The local magistrate of the said place was in duty bound to have informed you that the road going and returning would be quite long, and to have treated you with kindness and sincerity, so detaining your honored vessel for a reply. Now, however, before the arrival of the reply, the guest from afar has already departed; so doing, how grievously have we offended the rules of propriety! Aside from the fact that the local magistrate has received a demerit mark, I have prepared a despatch in reply to be kept in readiness in case your honored vessel should return.

And first, I beg to state in general, as regards the circumstances of this affair, that the legal regulations of our country with reference to the merchant ships of a foreign country driven hither by adverse winds are, that in case the vessel is sound, we are to furnish provisions and whatever she needs while waiting for a wind to depart. In case the vessel is not sound, and there is no means of proceeding by sea, then we are to follow their wish in sending an offer to escort them by land to Pekin, which thing has occurred heretofore, not merely once. Such a course we look upon as in accordance with true benevolence. He who is in heaven above regards the people of neighboring nations just as he does our own. Your worthy communication, which I have just received, is so exceedingly complimentary as to make us feel quite ashamed.

With reference to the affair which transpired last autumn in the Ping-Yang river, I would state that at that time there was a foreign vessel entered the lower waters of the Ping-Yang river, and the local magistrate of that place, supposing that the vessel was driven hither by distress of weather, and coming in to seek a vessel to tranship to, proceeded to make inquiry into the matter. But the men on board of the vessel became greatly enraged at the messenger, and refused to make any reply, shutting their eyes and lying down at their ease, clearly intending to offer insult. Our people restrained their anger, and by the most humble address and earnest entreaty found out that they were not driven here by storms. There was one man named Tsuy, calling himself a Frenchman, and another said to be an Englishman. They said that a large number of French men-of-war were about to come to this place, and that if the local magistrate would suffer them to open trade with the

people it would secure the dispersion of the soldiers of the two countries.

The local magistrate replied that permission to trade was not a thing which a local magistrate could assume to promise. The man Tsuy, however, refused to regard it, becoming more and more unreasonable and violent. The water in the Ping-Yang river is shallow and unfit for running large vessels; but he disregarded this, and every day, riding on the tide, went up a few miles further. Our people were specially anxious that the affair should not become serious, and so presented them with rice, meat, vegetables, fruit, fuel, etc. He, viz., the man Tsuy, replied that he would leave the next day, but when the next day came, instead of leaving, they advanced again, evidently intending gradually to push their way to the provincial city. The adjutant-general of the provincial city went out in a vessel every day, and escorted them in order to guard against trouble from a collision between these people and ours. One day he threw out grappling irons and ropes and captured the vessel of the adjutant-general, seizing him with his official seal and confining him on board this vessel. In some cases the trading vessels they met passing to and fro they rent to pieces with their cannon, carrying off the goods and killing the crew. I do not know to the extent of how many. Far and near all were exceedingly alarmed and fled in continuous streams. How extreme was the disgrace of the adjutant-general thus to be seized before hostilities had begun! Nevertheless we still resorted only to mild words and earnest entreaty, requesting that the adjutant-general should be given up, but the reply was, Wait till we enter the city, and we will restore him. This man Tsuy could speak Chinese and was without a match in fierceness and haughtiness, and seemed determined to force his way into the provincial city, though we did not know what his intentions were. The whole city, including several tens of thousands of soldiers and people, yielding to their indignant rage, came out in a mass to the river and commenced an attack with all their might, intending to rescue the adjutant-general. Several tens of people were killed by the cannon balls, when all, becoming infuriated, rushed on in a mass, the force of which was irresistible; fire was opened on both sides, and masses of burning wood were sent forth. Finally the powder stored in the said vessel exploded, rending her to pieces and sending the black smoke up to the heavens; the vessel was entirely burnt up and the men all killed. We do not still know whether this vessel belonged to your honorable country or not. This man Tsuy without cause pushed his way into the interior of another country, and provoked this affair; and examination has to this time failed to discover his object in acting thus.

It appears from your honorable communication that the vessel of our guest is of a different nationality from that claimed by this man Tsuy. The beginning and end of this affair amount simply to this: That your honored country's customs greatly tend to produce propriety in intercourse with others is well known to all the province, as well as to our illustrious neighbor in China. As to what is said in your honored communication about continuing former relations of friendship without any occasion of mutual injury (I will simply say that this affair) is but as a particle of autumn dust, not worthy to be entertained as a matter of doubt and solicitude. I now respectfully present this reply, asking you to make all necessary allowances, and for this purpose this reply is made.

A necessary reply addressed to the American Commander. Fifth year of the Emperor Tungche, 12th month, — day.

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

##### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

###### ORDERED.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Lieutenant-Commanders G. F. F. Wilde, B. H. McCalla, and Geo. W. Hayward, Lieutenant F. Hanford, Masters Wm. H. Reeder, Robert T. Jasper, and Wm. J. Barnette, Ensigns Newton E. Mason, Charles B. Brown, and Sumner C. Paine, Midshipmen John T. Edison, Thos. C. Wood, Asher C. Baker, Ed. F. Quailtrough, George L. Selden, F. H. Geutsh, Chauncey Thomas, and Charles W. Bartlett, to the *Wabash*.

SEPTEMBER 22.—Lieutenant-Commander A. G. Kellogg, to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.  
Lieutenant Godfrey M. Hunter and Master Edward P. Wood, to the Congress.

SEPTEMBER 23.—Lieutenant-Commander John McGowan, to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, on the 15th November.

Lieutenant S. P. Baird, to the Naval Academy on the 10th October.

SEPTEMBER 25.—First Assistant Engineer E. J. Whittaker, to the *Severn*.

SEPTEMBER 26.—Lieutenant-Commander Chas. E. Hawley, to League Island, Pa.  
Surgeon John C. Spear, and Assistant Surgeons J. L. Neilson and W. M. Nickerson, to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

###### DETACHED.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Captain Wm. G. Temple, from special ordnance duty, and ordered as chief of staff of European Squadron.

Lieutenant-Commander Charles McGregor, from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Lieutenant Richard C. Hooker, from the Hydrographic Office, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Master Leavitt C. Logan, from special duty at Washington, D. C., and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Ensign Edward B. Barry, from the *Worcester*, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Geo. F. Winslow, from the practice ship *Salatoga*, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Assistant Surgeon M. L. Ruth, from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

Chaplain Geo. D. Henderson, from the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the *Wabash*.

SEPTEMBER 21.—Captain T. S. Phelps, from command of the receiving ship *Independence*, and ordered to command the U. S. steamer *Severn*.

Commander Bancroft Gherard, from command of the *Jamestown*, and ordered to command the receiving ship *Independence*.

Ensign W. E. B. Delahay, from the North Atlantic Fleet, and placed on waiting orders.

SEPTEMBER 22.—Lieutenant-Commander Philip H. Cooper, from equipment duty at the Navy-yard, New York, and ordered to the Congress.

Lieutenant-Commander James O'Keefe, from the South Atlantic Fleet, and placed on waiting orders.

SEPTEMBER 23.—Surgeon Henry M. Wells, from the *Iroquois*, and placed on waiting orders.

Surgeon Thomas Hildad, from duty at Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the *Iroquois*.

First Assistant Engineer J. J. Bissett, from the *Severn*, and placed on sick leave.

Boatswain Robert McDonald, from the *Iroquois*, and placed on waiting orders.

Boatswain John W. Simmons, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the *Iroquois*.

SEPTEMBER 26.—Lieutenant-Commander Alfred Hopkins, from the command of the *Cyane*, and ordered to return home.

Master H. G. O. Colby, from the *Worcester*, and ordered to the *Shenandoah*, European Fleet.

Medical Director Wm. Grier, from special duty at Baltimore, Md., and ordered as temporary member of a Board of Examiners.

Surgeon A. C. Rhodes, from the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and granted six months' leave.

###### RESIGNED.

SEPTEMBER 20.—Lieutenant-Commander Marston Niles, to take effect on the 25th December.

###### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending September 23:

James Wood, seaman, September 18, U. S. steamer *Severn*, off Norfolk.

William Conner, marine, September 19, Naval Hospital, Norfolk.

###### CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

SEPTEMBER 15.—First Lieutenant Louis E. Fagan, U. S. Marine Corps.—Ordered to be detached from U. S. steamer *Ossipee*, to return to the United States, and report arrival by letter to headquarters.

First Lieutenant Lyman P. French, U. S. Marine Corps.—Detached from U. S. receiving ship *Ohio*, and ordered to join the South Sea Squadron, Pacific Fleet, via Panama, for duty on board U. S. steamer *Ossipee*.

Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Gibson, U. S. Marine Corps.—Detached from Philadelphia, Pa., Barracks, to proceed to Norfolk, Va., Navy-yard, and report for duty on board U. S. steamer *Severn*.

Second Lieutenant Albert H. O'Brien, U. S. Marine Corps.—Detached from U. S. steamer *Severn*, and ordered to duty at Philadelphia, Pa., Marine Barracks.

SEPTEMBER 25.—Henry Clay Fisher.—On September 7, 1871, appointed a second lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps, to rank from same date, and to report at headquarters on the 15th September.

First Lieutenant Henry C. Cochran, U. S. Marine Corps.—On the 22d inst. granted leave of absence for three weeks from September 25.

Captain Henry A. Bartlett, U. S. Marine Corps.—On the 22d inst. ordered, upon receipt of order, to proceed to the Brooklyn, N. Y., Navy-yard, for duty on board the U. S. receiving ship *Vermont*.

Captain Geo. P. Houston, U. S. Marine Corps.—Detached on the 22d inst., and ordered to Boston, Mass., to report by the 5th prox. as fleet marine-officer on board the U. S. steamer *Wabash*, now fitting out as flagship, European Squadron.

Second Lieutenant Ben. E. Russell, U. S. Marine Corps.—Detached on the 22d inst. from the Portsmouth, N. H., Station, and ordered to report by the 5th prox. at Boston, Mass., for duty on board the U. S. steamer *Wabash*.

THE suicide of Admiral Labrousse is attributed by the *Observateur des Pyrénées* to acute sufferings from gout, together with an affection of the lungs. His age was fifty.

THE *Spectator* says that Her Majesty's ship *Rinaldo* has had a creditable brush with the Malay pirates of Salangore, in the Straits Settlements. Commander Geo. Robinson was ordered to seize six pirates there, and debarked Lieutenant Maude and a small party for that purpose; but the pirates and their friends resisted, and fired, killing one man and driving Lieutenant Maude back to the *Philo*, a colonial steamer employed in the duty. Captain Robinson thereupon decided, although he had no surgeon on board and the bar was only passable at high tide, that he must take the *Rinaldo* into the river and destroy the forts which protected the pirates. He did so on the 4th of July, the forts opening fire the moment he appeared, and although the fire was hot and well directed, he steamed past the batteries, silenced them, burnt part of the opposite town, destroyed five pirate prahus, and, although the *Rinaldo* grounded and was under fire for six hours, steamed out again without any serious loss. Two days after the *Philo* arrived with troops, the forts were occupied, and we presume, but are not told, that the pirates who had been the original object of the expedition were captured. As a pirate emerging from Salangore commands the whole of the long channel between Malaya and Sumatra, Captain Robinson has performed a service to humanity and to commerce, and the friends of the aborigines need not be grieved. Of all human beings, a Malay pirate expects and deserves the sternest treatment. If he will keep at home, well; if not, there is nothing for it but to kill him.

WHILE the new frontier between France and Germany was being drawn, a stone was found, between Gravelotte and Doncourt, which bears upon one side the inscription *Terre de France*, and doubtless formerly served as a landmark. It stands exactly on the line marked by Kiepert as the former frontier of the German bishopric of Metz, and was to all appearance erected before 1552, when that city became French. It is to be hoped that the stone will now be preserved as an interesting historical memorial.

At a meeting of the members of Battery H, Second Artillery, stationed at Yerba Buena Island, California, called together on Tuesday evening, September 12, 1871, for the purpose of expressing their sympathy with Captain George T. Olmsted, commanding the battery, on the sudden and unexpected bereavement with which it has pleased the Sovereign Ruler of the Universe in his all-wise providence to visit him, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, By the death of Mrs. Olmsted our captain has sustained an irreparable bereavement in the loss of an amiable and devoted wife; and

Whereas, The deceased lady has endeared herself to the command by many acts of kindness and sympathy:

Resolved, That we desire to express our sincere condolence with our captain in his great trial, and trust that the Almighty Power which has so suddenly bereft him of the partner of his joys may sustain him in the moments of his tribulation.

Resolved, That, with all her relatives and friends, we would also mourn her loss, and assure them that the memory of the deceased lady will be ever embalmed in the hearts of the command.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Captain Olmsted, and also to the editors of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for insertion.

Signed on behalf of the Battery,

ADAM BLOCK, President.

SAMUEL PENNINGTON, Secretary.



**A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY**, well up on the list, and stationed at a desirable post upon the Atlantic coast, desires to effect a transfer with an officer of like grade in the Cavalry Corps. Address A. B., care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**TRANSFER.—A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF AN** Infantry regiment, serving on the Plains (white), date 1866, desires to transfer. Any other First Lieutenant of either Infantry, Cavalry or Artillery also desiring a transfer please address CENTURION, ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL. All communications received and treated confidentially.

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**TRANSFER TO THE MARINES.**—A First Lieutenant of Infantry, well up on the roster, will, if practicable, transfer with any first lieutenant of Marines, with about the same prospects of promotion. It is believed that this can be effected by special legislation, if not otherwise. Address C. M., care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**TRANSFER.—A CAPTAIN OF A WHITE INFAN-**TRY regiment, serving at a pleasant post in the West, desires to transfer to another regiment of Infantry or Cavalry (white). Address CAPTAIN, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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**DIAMONDS A SPECIALTY.**

An attempt to buy the Umatilla Reservation in Oregon from its Indian owners has resulted in failure. The proposition of the Government was to sell the lands to the highest bidder, the entire proceeds to go to the Indians, who were to remove to other lands or confine themselves to a smaller domain in the same reservation, as they chose; but they were unwilling. No attempt was made to coerce or persuade them. In the final speech of Hon. Mr. BRUNOT, chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners, he told the Indians: "You have decided to remain, and now you must cultivate the land, and raise corn, and grain, and stock upon it. If you would keep the white man from wanting your land, you must occupy it yourselves." That is precisely the condition of Indian affairs as it is now and always has been. The possession of the Indian lands has been obtained, not by any organized system of occupation, but by the simple progress of population—a progress which it is not within the scope of the Government to restrain, without the employment of the most restrictive measures, and of a military force much larger than the people are willing to support. White men put land to a better use than Indians, and it is a law of political economy that land shall fall into the hands of those who best know how to use it. If the Indian will have it, let him copy the white man's methods; and the true field of the philanthropists is the enforcement of this truth upon the Indian comprehension.

We learn from Boston that Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis G. Arnold, U. S. Army (retired), died in that city on Friday, the 22d of September, at the age of fifty-three years and eight months. Colonel Arnold was graduated from the Military Academy and promoted to second lieutenant Second Artillery July 1, 1837. He served in the Florida war, in the Cherokee Nation, while transferring the Indians to the West in 1838, during the disturbances on our northern border growing out of the Canadian rebellion of 1838-9, in the Mexican war, and finally during the rebellion. He was at Fort Pickens at the outbreak of the rebellion, and participated in its defence and the repulse of the rebel attack on Santa Rosa Island, receiving the brevet of lieutenant-colonel for gallant and meritorious services during the bombardment of the fort. He was afterward in command of the Department of Florida, and for a short time of the forces at New Orleans and Algiers, La. Colonel Arnold suffered for some years from paralyzation of the vocal organs, and was retired from active service February 8, 1864, "for disability resulting from long and faithful service and disease contracted in the line of duty."

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, from October 3, 1871, was granted Chaplain Chauncey W. Fitch, U. S. Army, September 23.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1871.

Office, No. 39 Park Row, New York.

SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype it, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

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### CAST-IRON GUNS.

IN justice to our correspondent "Ozark," whose communication we publish on another page, and the prediction he makes in regard to the bursting of the 12-inch gun at Fortress Monroe, we will say that his letter has been some time in our hands, but has been deferred by the amount of matter we have had waiting. The event took place within twenty-four hours of his prediction, and the knowledge of that fact will perhaps obviate the storm of criticism which he so justly deprecates.

The gun burst under a pressure of 100,000 pounds to the square inch, caused by the wedging and balloting of the projectile, more than by the powder, which the maker was sure would give low velocities with low pressures. The powder was DU PONT's cake powder, and the firing detachment, fearing from the condition of the gun that a mishap might occur, were luckily under cover. The gun burst at the first fire, breaking into nine fragments, a most unusual number. Deep impressions of the lands were found upon the projectile, which was stripped of its sabot, and which left a perfect helix of mashed lands in the forward part of the gun. A test will probably be made of the powder to settle the question whether the stripping and wedging of the projectile were causes or effects of the bursting. The destruction of this Rodman rifle in no way weakens the argument of "Ozark." He predicted the bursting from a knowledge of the bad condition this gun was in. The pressures which these cast-iron guns have withstood prove their magnificent character as a class. Our cast-iron ordnance in fact is something to be proud of, and deservedly bears the highest reputation—for cast-iron. But we, who have placed our dependence almost entirely on that material, need to have more than that. Our gun material must be not only the best of its class, but also of the best class; and if cast iron cannot bear the duties of the day, we must at all costs prepare for the use of something else. But we think there is no need as yet of abandoning cast iron. We have increased the size of our guns until the most ponderous shot thrown by any weapon in actual service issues from the huge mouth of an American 20-inch. But nevertheless we have as yet too little experience with this tremendous engine to fairly put it down as a known and thoroughly understood success. With its immediate predecessor, the 15-inch, the case is different. It has had long and arduous trial, and to state the condition of the 15-inch gun problem is to look at the highest developments of the cast-iron question.

We believe the success of this gun, firing one hundred pounds of powder, is not considered to be fully established. But it is nearly so, and with some slight improvement in the strength of iron and in the quality of powder, the question will be settled affirmatively. If we can raise the strength of our cast iron from its present maximum of 38,000 pounds, to 45,000 pounds per square inch, and if we can produce a powder which will give 1,600 to 1,800 feet velocity with a pressure not exceeding 35,000 pounds, we have the problem solved. These are perfectly practical questions, questions for the manufacturer, and there is at present every reason to think that the iron and powder men will answer them as we desire. DU PONT may be considered to have already

answered one of them, for it is well established that 25 pounds of his new high velocity powder will give in the 10-inch gun a velocity of 1,800, and perhaps 2,000 feet, with pressures not above 35,000 pounds. From what the iron founders have done in times past in increasing the tensile strength of their material, we may feel pretty sure that they will be equal to their new task; and though we shall have to wait a little longer, we confidently look for the production of the necessary grade of iron. Then we shall have a 15-inch capable of standing 1,000 rounds, of 100 pounds of powder each. Of those which we already have only one has ever burst, and this one stood 416 rounds, mostly with 100 pounds of powder, some of the charges being *brisant* and giving enormous velocities. Another is cracked, but appears to have been defective at the outset.

The lower grades of our ordnance bear in the most successful manner the severest trials. We think a reference to the records of the Ordnance Department will bear us out in making the following statements:

1. No 10-inch gun, model 1861, has ever burst under any circumstances whatever.
2. None has ever become unserviceable by firing, excepting two which were fired with 18 pounds of powder over 4,000 rounds each, and were literally worn out by erosion and no other cause.
3. Although a considerable number have been fired a large number of rounds with very heavy charges (20 to 30 pounds—mostly 25 or 26 pounds, which is all that can be effectively burned), the only long record which covers pressures, velocities, charges, elevations, etc., is gun No. 542. The record began with round 403, and was continued to 616 as follows:

Charges.					Velocities.		Pressures.		Solid shot invariably used. Average.
10 lbs.	20 lbs.	25 lbs.	30 lbs.	35 lbs.	Max. ft.	Min. ft.	Max. lbs.	Min. lbs.	
2 17	2 68	120	4	1	1723	1408	100000	21000	Pressure, about 35,000 lbs.
									Velocities with 18 and 23 lbs. not taken.

The gun is perfectly serviceable still.

4. The lowest recorded velocity, or known velocity, with 15 pounds of powder (in another gun) and solid shot, was 1,187. This is the only velocity we can find below 1,200 feet with that charge.

5. The Ordnance Manual fixes merely the "ordinary service charge." It is 15 pounds for this gun, but of course does not mean that it shall not be exceeded if occasion should call for it. It is fixed chiefly as a basis for determining tables of ranges, etc., and in service it is entirely discretionary what charge will be fired.

6. DUPONT's new high velocity powder will give easily 1,800 and perhaps 2,000 feet with pressures not above 35,000 pounds, allowing about 25 pounds to the charge.

Who then would have us abandon a system of ordnance which has stood tests like these, which has enabled us to arm our seacoast with the most powerful defences anywhere in use, and which is still far from having worn out its possibilities for improvement? We are by no means crying down the built-up guns upon which other nations so completely rely. Our readers well know the persistency with which we have urged their construction upon the Government, cost what it might. But having pressed one kind of ordnance to such perfection that its rivals must be very good indeed to make their results worth mentioning in comparison, we cannot appreciate the advantage of throwing it aside for systems as yet untried in war, and only borne on the current of some great foreign initiative. We shall hail with joy the first appropriation for this purpose, and all this talk about our ordnance service will be very far from being thrown away if it wakes Congress to the importance of the subject. We believe our ordnance officers have the plans of a wrought-iron weapon which they have sufficient faith in to be willing to give it a trial; and if Congress is willing, the much-needed addition to our service of built-up guns will be begun by the manufacture of a 12-inch gun on the WOODBRIDGE system. This is a novelty, and is said to be the strongest way of making a gun ever invented.

Perfection is not to be had by throwing aside a well-tried system, but by adding to it whatever in another system is superior. We would gladly see those who advocate the introduction of wrought-iron guns gain their point. At present there is no workshop in the country which could enter upon the



manufacture of 10-inch built-up guns, with a less expenditure than three to five hundred thousand dollars. When the Government is prepared to warrant such an outlay, we may begin both to talk about and to act in this matter; but these necessary preliminaries must first be attended to.

In this article we have presented the case of the cast-iron guns, because there seems to be a necessity for recalling the excellent character, great performance, and astounding endurance of those guns. As the strength of materials has become better and better known, house and ship builders have grown more daring in their use, and the number of houses that fall and of ships that sink appears to be on the increase. The ordnance men have also grown bolder as they became more acquainted with their material; but instead of disaster succeeding, the position of the artillerist is far safer than in old times with smaller guns and puny powder charges. This has not been accomplished without careful attention to the capabilities of the gun material, and incessant efforts to improve both that and the powder used. These labors have by no means ceased. The study of great guns and their needs has been steadily pursued, and we believe we are not far wrong in saying that the results latterly attained are something quite unusual, especially in the matter of projectiles.

The Ordnance Bureau needs appropriations for two objects: to continue the improvement of our present system, and to introduce the rival built-up guns. Others may balance the question which can wait, and which is the most necessary, but to us both seem simply imperative, and we shall be heartily glad to see the matter settled by having both attended to.

A GROWING evil in the Army is the custom, which prevails to a great extent, particularly at frontier posts, of making details on extra or daily duty from companies, for all sorts of unauthorized purposes, without regard to the strength of the garrison and without in any manner consulting the captains from whose companies the details are made. It often happens that at a post at which no building or other particular work is in progress as many as twelve men are detailed out of a company not over fifty strong. These men are recommended for the so-called extra duty by the quartermaster, commissary, or adjutant, and the commanding officer frequently orders them to be detailed without enquiring into the necessity for the special service, and without referring the matter to the captain of the company to which they belong. The injurious effect on the discipline and efficiency of the company thus ruthlessly torn to pieces is great. Men who have incurred the displeasure of their company commander through neglect of duty, insubordination, or other cause, have only to apply to a staff officer direct or through the quartermaster or commissary sergeant, in order to be removed, for an indefinite period, from the control of their captain, and this on increased pay and with more agreeable occupation. Even non-commissioned officers are, sometimes against the wishes of their captains, detailed on extra duty as clerks, etc. The question whether these men are familiar with their military duties or not is not considered, and the provisions of paragraph 906, Revised Army Regulations, which, without giving any one discretion in the matter, require extra duty men to attend weekly and monthly inspections, are too often violated.

It is to be hoped that the distinguished officers who are charged with the important task of revising the Army Regulations will not fail to effectually check an evil which, if permitted to continue, cannot help but materially impair the efficiency of our diminutive peace establishment.

GENERAL A. A. HUMPHREYS, Chief of the Engineer Corps, began last Saturday a thorough inspection of the forts and Government works in the vicinity of New York, and completed his tour on Tuesday of this week. The Secretary of War and General SHERMAN accompanied the inspecting officer, and Generals McDOWELL, PITCHER, WRIGHT, CULLUM, TOWER, BARRY, FOSTER, WALLEN, NEWTON, and other officers formed part of the company, which a chartered steamer carried from place to place. The great work of General NEWTON at Hell Gate was first inspected. This work, it is well understood, was undertaken to deepen the channel

across from Hallett's Point to the island opposite to the depth of twenty-five feet. To secure this result three acres of solid rock have to be removed. The work was found in a most satisfactory state. The party next proceeded to Willet's Point, the band of the First Artillery enlivening the journey. Here the visitors were met by General ABBOT, commanding the battalion of engineers there stationed, accompanied by officers attached to the station. Three companies of the battalion were drawn up in line and received the visitors with presented arms. General ABBOT explained at the manufactory the process for making the torpedoes for harbor defence, and afterward conducted experiments with four torpedoes in the water between Fort Schuyler and Willet's Point. The first torpedo was made up of 100 pounds of powder, and was sunk thirty-three feet; the second of four pounds of gun-cotton, sunk to the same depth; the third of 100 pounds of common mortar powder, sunk seventy feet; the fourth of 100 pounds of powder, sunk but eight feet. These torpedoes were exploded by electricity, and produced in each case a terrible force. The visitors then witnessed a full dress parade and a review of the soldiers at the garrison by General SHERMAN. General ABBOT was highly complimented on the success of his experiments. The caisson of Brooklyn bridge, the works at Fort Wadsworth, and Fort Hamilton, were subsequently visited and carefully inspected.

WE have before referred to the illiberal and unjust manner in which officers are dealt with by some of the life insurance companies, and this finds a new illustration in the case of which the *Insurance Times* gives the following account:

Lieutenant Fred. H. Beecher, a nephew of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, was so unfortunate as to have under him a pay sergeant who proved a defaulter to a considerable sum, and afterwards deserting, rendered the lieutenant liable for the amount. To repay the sum, Lieutenant Beecher was obliged to borrow of his mother, and in order to secure her insured himself at her request for the sum of two thousand dollars in the New Jersey Mutual Life. It is hardly necessary to state that a young officer in his position would have to exhibit no little self-denial to pay his premium, but his motives were strong to keep the policy in force. His affection for his mother, who had voluntarily made such sacrifices for him, impelled him to put by every dollar he could spare for the purpose to which we have referred. Several years afterwards he was sent on a peace mission to some of the aboriginal tribes in Kansas, and was killed in an unexpected fight with the Indians. His life policy was made out in favor of his mother, who preferred the claim, but as the policy itself and receipts for premium could not be found, the company rejected the claim on the ground that he had not paid a war risk. As Mrs. Beecher was averse to publicity and litigation, she declined to institute legal proceedings for the recovery of her claim; but a friend of the family referred the case to the press, and an article reviewing it was published in the *Insurance Times* for October, 1870. It expressed its views very freely on the unjust evasion by the company of a righteous claim. Mrs. Beecher had probably relinquished all hopes of prevailing upon the New Jersey Mutual Life to voluntarily concede her rights, when the policy and other vouchers were providentially discovered in an old military trunk. The documents were placed in the hands of her son at Albany, who at once apprised the company of the discovery, and demanded a prompt settlement under the penalty, in case of refusal, of the immediate commencement of legal proceedings. Herring, the company's Washington agent, was despatched to Albany, and Vice-President Lathrop was despatched after him by the next train. They both waited on Mr. Beecher, the brother of the deceased policy-holder, and ascertained with their own eyes that the policy was not lost on the plains, as they supposed. A check was given for the full amount of its face, with interest from date of death, amounting together to \$2,300.

Officers desiring to insure should avoid being misled by the appearance of Army names in the board of directors of insurance companies. The Economical Insurance Company of Providence, to whose shortcomings we have heretofore alluded, has been accustomed to parade the names of five honored officers in its list of directors, Generals BURNSIDE, GILLMORE, WHEATON, and MCINTOSH, and Commander SHUFELDT of the Navy. All of these are good men and true, but unfortunately they know little or nothing about the affairs of the company, and are unaware of the discourteous and unjust acts of the officers of the company, to which they are made constructively a party.

THE first accounts of the circumstances attending the death of Professor MAHAN were naturally somewhat incorrect. At the coroner's inquest held over his recovered remains at Haverstraw, Dr. HUBBARD, assistant surgeon at West Point, testified as follows:

His last illness dates back to the month of June, 1871; his disposition was of a nervous character; his bodily functions were normal; the cause of this nervousness was, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a recommendation of the Board of Visitors in their report for his retirement; the result of that recommendation was to depress his mind very seriously and almost constantly; at times the mental depression would assume the form of a violent nervous paroxysm, lasting usually about half an hour; I saw him in two of these paroxysms, and his conduct was of such a character as to impress me with the conviction of his entire unaccountability and irresponsibility for any act he might commit during the existence of the paroxysm; I therefore cautioned his wife and sons to watch him very closely, especially while he was under the influence of the paroxysms, and not to allow him to leave the house unattended; upon my visits he frequently disclaimed any bodily illness; he stated to me that he was laboring under a terrible apprehension of something dreadful to happen; I told him if it were anything to enlighten a physician in the treatment of his case he certainly ought to make it known, or, if otherwise, I did not wish to be a depository of his private affairs; he assured me it was nothing that would affect the

medical treatment of his case, that he was physically as sound as he was in former years; I recommended him to consult with some physician in New York who had made a specialty of nervous diseases; he replied: "Doctor, it would do no good—my trouble is beyond the reach of your art"; about a week or ten days afterwards Mrs. Mahan, Professor Church, and Professor Michie advised him to consult a physician in New York who was an old friend of the family, and he was on his way to do so on the fatal morning when he met his death.

MISS DREW, the nurse who was with the Professor at the time of his self-destruction, said:

He made no complaint, only that he felt very warm, and took off his overcoat; he also took off his rubbers, and asked me to take care of them for him; I saw him all the time, excepting about five minutes up to the time he lost his life; I noticed some nervousness about half an hour before I missed him; he appeared to be uneasy and was walking up and down; I advised him to leave on his overcoat if he intended to remain out of doors, as it was chilly; he put it on, however, and walked up and down the cabin rapidly; shortly afterward he came and sat close by my side; in a few minutes he arose and handed me his umbrella, telling me to take care of it, as he was going to take another little walk, which he did and then sat down with his back to the bow of the boat; he sat about ten minutes; I saw him get up from the chair; I don't think it was more than five minutes when I heard the cry, "A man overboard."

According to the testimony of the pilot of the *Mary Powell*, Professor MAHAN came out of the saloon when the steamer was off Verplanck's Point, stepped on the seat, and over the railing, walked to the side of the boat, and then off into the water. Professor MICHIE, who was sent to identify the remains, testified to the alteration in the Professor's conduct during the last few months, and there is no doubt that the hard-worked and sensitive mind had given way long before his death. We shall present our readers another week with an obituary worthy of a man so justly prominent, from the pen of one who knew him well.

THE well-written communication on our first page, describing the breech system and giving the record of the Peabody gun, would attract attention without especial allusion to its appearance in the *JOURNAL*. The recent adoption of the Martini-Henry by the British government as a service arm—a gun confessedly an infringement upon the American original—renders the article particularly opportune just at the present time. It is likewise noticeable that in the exhaustive work upon breech-loading arms, "Die Rückladung-Gewehre," recently published at Vienna and Berlin, the Peabody system is the recognised base of at least a quarter of all the inventions described.

OF the nineteen American officers in the service of Egypt, the highest in rank is Major-General Thaddeus P. Mott, a New Yorker, brother-in-law of Blacque Bey. Next is Brigadier-General W. W. Loring, who lost an arm in Mexico, and was a division commander in the Confederate armies; next Brigadier-General H. H. Sibley of the U. S. and C. S. armies. Then we have Brigadier-General Chas. P. Stone, and his opponent at Ball's Bluff, Colonel Jenifer, son of a former member of Congress from Maryland. Then there are Colonel Beverly Kenon, son of Commodore Kenon, killed by the explosion of Commodore Stockton's big gun "the Peacemaker"; Colonel A. W. Reynolds, a graduate of the Military Academy, who fought in the Mexican war, also against the Union; Colonel Thomas G. Rhett, West Pointer, and Colonel Frank Reynolds, ditto, both of the C. S. A.; Colonel Sparrow Purdy, formerly of General Sykes's staff, U. S. A.; Colonel Vanderbilt Allan, a West Pointer, and nephew of Cornelius Vanderbilt; Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Caille Long, of the Eastern Shore of Maryland; Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Ward, formerly of the U. S. and C. S. navies; Major W. P. A. Campbell, ditto; Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. Dunlap, West Pointer and ex-Confederate; Major Wm. McComb Mason, formerly of the U. S. Navy and the C. S. army; Major E. Parya, a naturalized American; Major E. Hunt, a native of Maryland; and, lastly, Lieutenant Sydney J. Sibley, "a youth to fortune and to fame unknown."

From the character of these officers it will be seen that the conclusion that they have expatriated themselves because of dissatisfaction with the condition of affairs in the United States was somewhat too hastily drawn. They have gone abroad in the legitimate pursuit of the honors and rewards of the military profession, from which they are shut out at home. The Khedive was wise to employ them, and the Sultan will be equally wise if he can compel their return, if he intends to maintain his vassal in a position to enforce authority over him.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon J. M. Laing, U. S. Army, was relieved September 18 from duty at Fort Gibson, Cherokee Nation, and will report at once to the lieutenant-colonel Sixth Infantry, for duty with the four companies of that regiment now under orders to proceed to Fort Dodge, Kansas, and Camp Supply, Indian Territory. Upon arrival at the latter post, Acting Assistant Surgeon Laing will report by letter to the medical director of the department.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

KIT CARSON'S SHADE.

BY LANCE CORPORAL MARS.

"Oh, wise of counsel, strong of arm, brave of heart, and gentle of nature, how bitterly have you been maligned!"—EL MARIPOSO.

Ah, generous soldier, whose bold hand has penned  
This noble tribute to thy humble friend  
In vindication of a comrade's name,  
By buffoons slandered for poetic fame,  
From airy dwelling far among the skies  
Kit Carson's spirit lightly, swiftly flies,  
And straightway earthwards his bold shadow spreads  
To scenes of glory and forgotten deeds—  
It comes to greet thee—to thy courage yield  
Membrane grateful of many a bloody field.  
It comes from concert in unmeasured space  
With souls like Hector's, and that mighty race  
Of godlike heroes, whose great souls would spurn  
The abject coward who would dare to turn  
His back to danger while a loved one dies,  
Implored succor with her "marvelous eyes"—  
Kit Carson's shadow comes with thanks to you,  
Oh, noble comrade, to whom thanks are due  
For contradiction and the lie you gave  
To that would-be great man—poetic knave!—  
Who'd fain reduce me to his base level—  
A spavined poet or border devil.  
Ah, tell me, comrade, has all genius flown,  
And applauding mortals idiotic grown,  
That such vile jargon be allowed to blot  
The name of poet, or obtain a spot  
Mid sacred limits of historic page,  
To show to readers of some future age  
What trashy nonsense in this age time  
Receives the homage due an art sublime?  
Great Homer's spirit! thou hast cause to moan,  
And Byron's shadow in wild anguish groan,  
Since poetic talent from the earth has fled,  
And sickly twaddle takes its place instead.

Deluded mortals! If I can be heard  
Ere gray daybreak starts me, I would a word  
Of caution whisper in thy ready ears:  
Believe no portion of this tale you hear.  
This generous soldier on whom I gaze  
Has told you of me when in former days  
This soul was shrouded in a mould of clay,  
We shared the fortunes of many a day.  
He tells you also, when nearly dying  
Of wounds and fever, 'neath fierce sun lying,  
Far, far from water on the burning sands  
Of scorching deserts, where each mortal stands  
With eye despairing and hot, parching tongue,  
In anguish seeking one lone drop among  
The barren precincts of that arid plain,  
On his burning lips I did freely drain  
The last of water, with a willing hand,  
To be found on all that wild waste of sand.  
But why not tell them, gallant comrade, more—  
A tale they have, perhaps, not heard before—  
When desecrated, wounded, this bleeding form  
Was borne by you through a wild battle storm  
Of deadly bullets from the swarthy foe,  
O'er space the boldest did not dare to go?  
You've not told them this, yet you speak of me.  
Ah, generous spirit! who more fit than thee  
To guard the honor of a soldier's name  
Or comrade's memory from such poet's fame?  
Once more, brave soldier, e'en again we part,  
Accept the offerings of my grateful heart.  
The night is waning and I must away.  
Since you seek to eastward foretell the day,  
Oh, much longer, gladly, I would have staid,  
But the fates forbid it—to Carson's shade.

U. S. STEAMER MERCURY, Sept. 17, 1871.

## WHY HAVE WE NOT LARGER RIFLED FIELD GUNS?

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In "A Few Thoughts on Artillery," published in your last week's issue, are found enumerated various shortcomings, as the author considers them, of the Ordnance Department, failures on its part to keep up with the improvements of the day; and regarding them as the natural consequences of the present organization of the department, he draws an argument in favor of its consolidation with the artillery. One of the subjects of complaint is referred to in the following paragraph:

"American artillery officers have long been pretty well united in the belief that we ought to have rifled guns of larger calibre than the 3-inch for field service, and it is understood that the Ordnance Department has contemplated the fabrication of a 3½-inch gun to weigh about 1,200 pounds; but nothing beyond perhaps making the drawings has yet been done in this direction."

Since this matter has been brought publicly before the Army, in order that they may thoroughly understand it and the better appreciate the force of the argument, which the author evidently deems highly damaging to the Ordnance Department, it is necessary that they should know the exact facts of the case.

It happens to be within the knowledge of the present writer that an officer of the Ordnance Department, impressed with the importance of having larger rifled field guns than the 3-inch, wrote a letter to the Chief of Ordnance in the spring of 1864, urging him to take steps for withdrawing from the service the light 12-pounder smooth-bored gun, and substituting in its place a rifled gun of about the same weight. The Chief of Ordnance replied that he would give the suggestion due consideration, but, "so far as he had conversed with artillery officers, they were greatly prepossessed in favor of the light 12-pounder gun."

The proposition was also laid before a distinguished artillery officer, whose opinion on such matters carried with it great weight. Instead of gaining this officer's approval in favor of the suggestion, as was hoped, there came in reply this extinguisher: "That he was not yet prepared to give up the ricochet of the round shot in field batteries." This fact was made public at the time in a magazine read generally by the officers of the Army, and if any exception was ever taken to this opinion by officers of the artillery, it has never come under my notice. The subject has been discussed repeatedly by Ordnance officers, and the opinion of those who knew most of the views of the artillery was, until very recently, that the artillery were not prepared for the change and would oppose it.

It would appear then that the reason why we have not long ago had rifled guns of larger calibre than the 3-inch for field service is, not because the Ordnance officers failed to appreciate their advantages and to propose them for adoption, not because the department was not willing

to furnish them, but simply because the artillery officers were wedded to the smooth-bore gun and were not willing to relinquish it. If "American artillery officers have long been pretty well united in the belief that we ought to have rifled guns of larger calibre than the 3-inch for field service," why, it may be asked, have they not sooner made known their belief? Why have they not let it be known that they were prepared to give up the ricochet of the round shot for field batteries, and accept larger rifled guns, as was so long ago proposed for them?

Another grievance on which the author of "A Few Thoughts on Artillery" lays great stress, is the fact that the Ordnance Department has not provided rifled mortars for siege and seacoast use, and he argues that this is a necessary result of the separate organization of the department. Now the fact is that the use of rifled mortars was proposed and urged upon the Chief of Ordnance by one of its officers some time before the experiments were made by the Prussians; and if the suggestion had been promptly acted on at that time, the credit of having first tested and adopted rifled mortars would have belonged to the Ordnance Department of the United States instead of Prussia.

The rifled mortars have not been made, it is true, but I fail to see how the result of the suggestion referred to would have been different if the Ordnance and artillery had been consolidated instead of being separate as they are.

He admits that the present "inactivity, so far as relates to the construction of Ordnance, is enforced by the unwise legislation of Congress forbidding the manufacture of cannon, thus compelling the cessation of all experiments in the direction in which improvement is absolutely essential."

If he can show that the failure of Congress to vote appropriations for Ordnance purposes, and to place the country in as complete a state of preparation for defence as others, is due only to the existing organization of the Ordnance Department, he will have then made a strong argument in favor of consolidation of the Ordnance with the artillery, and he will have no trouble in finding others who will join hands with him in effecting the change; but in the mean time he ought to give even the Ordnance its due.

JUSTITIA.

## CAST IRON FOR HEAVY GUNS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent signing himself X., notwithstanding the trouble of the JOURNAL to instruct him, deals more rashly than ever in reckless assertions. The memory of X. is either strangely treacherous, or, as just intimated, his assertions are made in reckless indifference to the facts of the case when he states that "several" and "not a few 15-inch guns have bursted." The fact is that but *two* of these guns have bursted, the history of which is briefly as follows:

One 15-inch at Fortress Monroe burst at the 416th round, 217 rounds having been fired with a solid shot weighing 450 pounds and 100 pounds of powder. During this firing all kinds and makes of large grain powder were experimented with, some varieties of low density giving enormous pressures and yet low velocities. General Rodman, however, attributed the bursting of this gun and the cracking of another to the use of a cannon lock, which, by stopping the vent upon the exterior, brought into action a sudden and violent strain under circumstances which rendered a tendency to burst along a plane containing the axis of the vent and parallel to the axis of the gun at least double that to burst the gun along any other plane containing its axis.

The only remaining 15-inch gun which has bursted is one recently fired to extremity in Pittsburgh by the Navy Department; and although it was confessedly the poorest gun ever turned out by the manufacturers—owing to a want of recent experience and the loss of skilled workmen, which caused several all but serious and fatal accidents in its construction—it nevertheless did not give way until it had been fired some 600 times with heavy charges.

The writer's experience in the manufacture of these guns, under instructions from the late General Rodman, enables him to corroborate the statements of the editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL with regard to the development to the fullest advantage of the latent strength of cast iron, many samples of which we have known to reach 45,000 lbs. tensile strength. The due relation between density and tenacity had nevertheless to obtain, or the gun was rejected. Let your correspondent X. bear in mind that good steel, with all its elastic vigor and high tenacity, may be simply cast iron decarbonized, and he will more fully realize that we have not yet attained to the full inherent virtues of the latter metal. Your correspondents hear of the wonderful built-up guns of foreign countries, but do they know anything of their endurance? On the other hand, we hear of their enormous cost, and the constant laying down of one system and taking up of another. If Congress were less niggardly in its treatment of this question, the small appropriations repeatedly begged for by the Chief of Ordnance would enable him to test certain "representative" guns of other countries in comparison with our own; but until this can be done, all that remains for the Ordnance Department in this direction is to "wait and watch." In the mean time let X. be satisfied that there is not a gun made in any foreign country that cannot be made here when Congress shall declare the necessity for armament, and experience shall prove foreign systems the best. Not that we approve of weakly waiting for an emergency to arrive for the decision of so doubtful a question; on the contrary, the fullest energy should be displayed in perfecting our seacoast defences by an armament of heavy Rodman smooth-bored and rifles, the manufacture of which should be pushed industriously forward until a gun has been found and proved their superior.

Suppose that a thousand Rodman guns should be made, and it is then discovered that guns of greater endurance may be had, this does not render our existing

system less serviceable or formidable; and if the "life" of such guns were but 300 rounds, it is altogether probable that this would be all-sufficient for at least a hundred years. The few guns used in practice, and examined from time to time, could of course be replaced with others when their condition required it.

In point of fact, however, our 15-inch smooth-bored and 12-inch rifles may be relied upon to stand upward of 500 rounds of heavy charges; while those accidents of manufacture which are incidental to the "built-up" gun are almost entirely eliminated from the Rodman system, so that a uniformity of results may be confidently expected. It should be remembered also that the maximum charge should not always be used—indeed, that it will be only occasionally if not rarely employed; that fifty pounds of powder develops a tremendous power, ample in many cases of actual warfare, and certainly sufficient for drill and practice; that our powder, moreover, is being constantly improved, and that high velocities and moderate pressures are beginning to go hand in hand; all of which facts tend still further to prolong the actual life of our heavy Ordnance.

Endurance, however, so far as it means resistance to the bursting tendency, is not the only qualification which guns should possess; it is of the first importance that the surface of their bores should be uniformly hard and unyielding, and the metal throughout homogeneous; and in these respects our cast-iron guns cannot be surpassed. Even in our rifles the edges of the grooves and lands are sharp and well defined after hundreds of rounds.

It should perhaps be stated that in addition to the 15-inch guns already mentioned to have bursted, there has been a 12-inch Rodman rifle burst under no less honorable circumstances than the smooth-bored. This gun was fired with 70 pounds of powder and projectiles averaging over 600 pounds each, and burst after 472 rounds. All sorts of experimental powders and projectiles were fired out of this gun; great numbers of projectiles "stripped," "wedged," and "upset," and very many pressures exceeded 50,000 pounds, 70,000 pounds, and 90,000 pounds per square inch. The projectiles recovered showed marks of the lands in many cases throughout the entire length of their cylindrical portion, and in some places quite deep. Imagine the powerful jamming of the projectile in the bore of the gun which would cause deep indentations by the lands in so unyielding a material as cast iron of high quality. Added to this, moreover, there were many pressures of which there is no record.

We will next mention an 8-inch Rodman rifle which burst at round No. 1,047 under a pressure of 150,000 pounds per square inch, caused by a stripping experimental projectile, after standing many pressures approximating 100,000 pounds per square inch. The mate to this gun, the only other 8-inch Rodman rifle, has been fired 864 times and is yet a serviceable gun, its grooves being almost as sharply defined as ever. In this gun 205 pressures have exceeded 50,000 pounds per square inch; 135 pressures have exceeded 75,000 pounds; 16 pressures have exceeded 100,000 pounds; 4 pressures have exceeded 125,000 pounds; and 3 pressures, have reached 150,000 pounds.

Finally, there is now a 12-inch Rodman rifle at Fort Monroe which at the sixth and seventh rounds was subjected by the wedging of the projectile (deeply indenting it) to the enormous pressure of 200,000 pounds per square inch. This gun has been fired subsequently about twenty rounds, with pressures ranging from 50,000 to 150,000 pounds; small cracks are discovered in the bore, and yet when it bursts, and it is liable to do so at the first fire, under some future experiments, we fully expect a universal howl of dismay to greet so natural a result.

It has thus briefly, but we trust clearly, been shown that, properly treated, cast iron is excellent gun material, and, so far from being treacherous, is from its nature susceptible of a fixed treatment yielding us in return fixed and definite results. It is, in fact, a noble and reliable metal. That a metal will one day be found which will enable us to secure in our large guns a high limit of resistance, combined with lightness of construction, is the writer's firm conviction; but this furnishes no reason for despising cast iron as a material for heavy guns.

With reference to rifled mortars, X., with his customary disregard of what may be the facts of the case, expresses his conviction that no Ordnance officer has so much as thought upon the subject. For his information, therefore, we state that a proposition to construct a rifled mortar was received at the Ordnance Office two years ago. The proposition was well considered, but being received at a time when the Ordnance Department was about bankrupt, nothing could be done in the way of experiment until funds were obtained. Now, however, notwithstanding the very limited resources of the department, we think that X. may count upon the speedy construction of a rifled mortar, and its thorough test. With regard to the great success and terrific effect of the rifled mortars when used as field guns by the Prussians, X. will, we know, excuse us if we take such a statement with a shadow of allowance, and express the fear that the best authority for his statement might possibly be found in a vivid imagination.

In his second communication X. is consistently ignorant or indifferent to facts and figures, and "fixes things" generally to suit himself. His statement that "no 10-inch gun has ever been made to deliver 1,000 rounds with an initial velocity of 1,600 or 1,800 feet" is entirely worthless so far as it is intended to reply to the editorial remarks in the JOURNAL. If various 10-inch guns have successfully stood 1,200, 1,600, and 2,000 rounds each, notwithstanding they were subjected at each round to a pressure fully equal to that which our improved powder now gives with a velocity of 1,600 feet, is this not sufficient ground for the statement of the JOURNAL that the 10-inch gun might be relied upon for 1,000 rounds and 1,600 feet velocity? To further satisfy him on this point, we will state that we witnessed the firing of two 10-inch guns at Reading, which, owing to their high initial strain, General Rodman considered doubtful. Four



hundred rounds, each with twenty-five pounds of powder and a solid shot, were fired out of these guns, after which the star-gauge showed an enlargement barely measurable. These guns have since been fired at Fortress Monroe, but we have not access to their further record.

We wonder if X. really knows better, or if he conscientiously believes that the minimum charge of 15 pounds of powder prescribed by the Ordnance Department for the 10-inch gun gives only 900 feet initial velocity? Where could he have been rusticated the past few years that he should make so extraordinary a statement? We would beg this Rip Van Winkle to awaken to the fact that 15 pounds of good serviceable powder in the 10-inch gun will deliver a solid shot of 126 pounds, with an initial velocity of 1,200 and 1,300 feet.

It is useless, we suppose, to go over ground so ably covered by the JOURNAL in its instructive reply to X., who, notwithstanding, seems as utterly incapable of a clear conception of the questions at issue as ignorant of the facts bearing upon them. Yet we beg to state, as the JOURNAL has already done, that "not only is 1,500 feet regarded as rather a low velocity to obtain from the 15-inch gun, but that velocities of 1,800 feet and upward have been obtained with moderate pressures;" and so far from such velocities being considered "anomalous," a perfectly consistent relation has been obtained between velocity and pressure for each variety of experimental powder. The fact that such velocities can now be obtained with moderate pressures, and that with the ordinary mammoth powder now in use the average velocity is 1,550 feet, together with the examples of endurance already quoted, we hope may convince many readers of the JOURNAL, if not X. himself, of the unfairness of the latter's statements, a few of which we beg to quote at this place. The italics are ours, and show how liberally he deals in the plural:

"It is true that *not a few* 15-inch guns have been burst; *some* of them had been subjected to extraordinary and improper strains, and had been fired quite a number of times. But it is understood that *the last unfortunates were comparatively new guns*, and in fact among those especially selected for the 'endurance test' promised us in 1869. Whether the premature death of *these victims*, that occurred in the midst of elaborate preparations to sacrifice them more deliberately and scientifically, had anything to do with the indefinite postponement of the 'trial of endurance,' is not known to your correspondent."

The extraordinary character of these remarks will be appreciated if the reader will bear in mind what we have already shown to be the fact, that only *two* 15-inch guns have burst, and neither of them treacherously. Yet we are rashly informed by X. that two different lots of 15-inch guns have burst. The first lot comprises "not a few" (would a dozen be a *few* or "not a few"?), *some* of which, in his opinion, burst with reason; while the second batch of failures embraced "*those* especially selected for the endurance test."

We take *quantum valet* the table of velocities and work done which X. introduces in his last article, although it is absurdly irrelevant. He wishes to prove—for what reason is not very clear—that the quantity of work done by the 9-inch rifle projectile at the distance of *two miles* will equal that done by the 15-inch at the same distance. Very well; then it follows that except for bombarding and shelling purposes, or firing upon wooden vessels, we should not use the 15-inch gun at ranges exceeding two miles. We fully agree with X. in this, and if he has not some rifled guns at hand we would advise him, when the emergency arises in his experience, to reserve his fire from the 15-inch until a little nearer the enemy. But why does he stop here? why not run out his columns of figures? He would find ultimately that the 15-inch shot comes to a state of rest while the 9-inch still goes on capable of a little mischief. But what has this to do with the questions at issue—viz., the endurance of Rodman guns, the fitness of cast iron for heavy ordnance, and the propriety of equipping our forts with guns of this class, smooth-bores and rifles?

We repeat as our firm conviction that heavy guns will at no very distant day be discovered which will surpass in endurance any which the Rodman system can produce, but we maintain that the Rodman guns have been proved so reliable as to fully justify their extensive use for present coast defence.

The action of Congress in this matter is indeed to be regretted; it is in perfect keeping, however, with its persistent rejection of all petitions for an experimental fund. As our fortifications without guns are but tempting prizes for an enemy to quietly possess himself of, would it not be wise for Congress, if it must be economical (?), to turn over to the Ordnance Department part of the large appropriations for fortifications—particularly as these fine monuments of engineering skill are doomed in great part to be replaced by earthworks?

Like the author of "A Few Thoughts," X. is evidently a believer in the virtue of repetition. "H. O. M." ding-dongs for consolidation, and "X" hammers away at the Rodman system; both are somewhat regardless of facts, seem to be playing for "general results," and by persistent efforts—dare we say?—hope to effect an object. Confidence seems certainly to be inspired by such a course, however; for their arguments have grown up from the humble suggestion of a very doubtful expediency into the imperative demand as a right.

OZARK.

## THE ACEPHALOUS ARTILLERY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: It would seem that the issues raised in General Morgan's pamphlet are much overlooked by Mr. Dutton in his zeal to advertise the special excellences of the Ordnance Corps. The qualifications desirable in that branch of the service are, it is confessed, sufficiently multitudinous and the prospect before the consolidated artillery officer sufficiently alarming. How, surely, is he to deal with the "vulpine shrewdness" of men and the gleaming iridescence of furnaces? How does the ord-

nance officer himself bear this terrible strain upon the mental and material eye? Before such ophthalmic exposure it behooves us all, in view of possible contingencies, to plentifully provide ourselves with smoked glass. A fearful fellow truly must this one of the ordnance hypothesis be—an almost impossible focus of Patent Office, fecundity, Inspector Bucket, and the Prophet Nathan, in the exceeding glare of the fierceness of which refractory ores and dishonest contractors each shed their slag and grow pure and peaceable forever.

One is curious to know something of the antecedents of such a phenomenon, and what powerful meat enters into the composition of arsenal rations to generate ability like this. Let us look in upon Second Lieutenant Musket O'Gunn, for instance, who, by dint of good conduct and hard study at the "Point," has earned the privilege of adorning his cap with that mysterious symbol, so much resembling an Apache scalp-lock, but professionally known as "shell and flame," which was, we believe, first used as an emblem by that niece of Cardinal Richelieu who married the great Condé, and may therefore with propriety be assumed for the patron saint of the Ordnance Corps.

To return to Mr. O'Gunn, as from his attic window he looks thoughtfully out upon the landscape gardening of the detachment of artificers at Watervliet, with the usual roll of ordnance memoranda before him whence to unwind his clue through the labyrinth of inventive fancies and detective expedients supposed to be the birth-right of his commission.

The simplicity which so innocently facilitates itself upon its astuteness in dealing with formula, foundries, and cheats, was certainly not born in the workshop or Wall street. It has the flavor of rural retirement and blue-books, under the vine-clad arbors of the walled solitudes of Pikeville and Vergennes. However, common barnyard fowl like the artillery must be content to admire from the loopholes of their mouldy casemate coops the beauteous plumage and gallant bearing of this ordnance bird in the outside sunshine. By no means may they pick up even a stray feather for their own decoration.

Let us then look on and be thankful, nor meddle with the abstruse involutions of "Gadolin and the younger Barlow;" (by the way, if the latter is so difficult of comprehension, what must the old man have been?)

It is comfortable to feel that whatever may be the "boundless complexity" of the problems awaiting attack by the ordnance mind, their solution is in process of "development," and will, we trust, be worth the pains of parturition; only at times it does seem as if there were clustered about this development mournful reminiscences of the Kilkenny cats. Along comes the Rodman rifle, and behold, that is followed by the Dutton powder, and the smoke of the one goes up to the heavens over the ruins of the other.

The ordnance folks give us a carriage massive with braces and bolts and brilliant with vermillion. Under the pressure of King's counterpoise system, however, the cumbersome machine threatens to follow the famous one-horse shay into dissolution.

And so the alternate pull goes on between the Dick and the Devil of powder and pintle, while the artillery officer may congratulate himself that all he has at present to do is to stand clear of the fragments while the ordnance are *harmonizing* the "elasticities, elongations, and ultimate resistances" of gas and gun.

In another thing, too, we doubtless all agree, that our corps should have a head put on it at once, if for no other purpose than that to which the horseman of Sleepy Hollow put his—to hurl at poachers upon our preserves.

An acephalous condition denotes a very low stage of organization, and we know of no animals among our ancestry to the remotest degree that ever amounted to much without a head, except the oyster, which is also swallowed by every fellow with one.

In conclusion, we admit the justice of Mr. Dutton's view in respect to one of the arguments urged for consolidation, which would, as it seems to us, also require a musician to be a machinist, or a finished artist the foreman of a paint shop, or Canova a "development" upon the "village blacksmith." Only let construction as represented by the ordnance take its proper place as subordinate and obedient to the requirements of use as represented by the artillery.

CANISTER MCGRAPE, Captain U. S. Artillery.

## THE GOOD TEMPLARS DEFENDED.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have noticed a communication in your valuable journal of the 16th instant regarding secret organizations in the army, and calling special attention to the Independent Order of Good Templars, in which the writer, "Tuscaloosa," says that they are required to take a solemn obligation to assist and protect brothers of the order, regardless of truth, honor, and principle. This is not so, as "Tuscaloosa" will find if he takes the pains to read our constitution. I do not think the gentleman has any idea of the aim of this order. It is gotten up for the purpose of saving the drunkard; and I believe I can safely say that since the lodge to which I belong was organized, it has done good work, and saved many soldiers from getting into trouble.

He also says that Good Templars are all made non-commissioned officers. Here also I must differ with him; for in the company to which I belong, out of the ten non-commissioned officers there are but three belonging to the order. I think it would be to the interest of every soldier to join a temperance organization of some kind, as it is a well-known fact that two-thirds of the men punished in the Army are court-martialled for crimes committed while drinking whiskey or under its influence. A Good Templar is seldom if ever punished.

TEMPLAR.

FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, September 31, 1871.

Another correspondent, who writes in defence of the Good Templars to the same effect, says in conclusion of "Tuscaloosa":

In his accusation he has not only been denounced by the Good Templars of the post of Chattanooga and its officers, but I will venture to say, by more than four millions of people in these United States, exclusive of those of other countries, where I have seen lodges of Good Templars working under the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of North America, and among whom are some of the most prominent men of the present day, both civil and military.

I am very sorry that "Tuscaloosa" has been disappointed and probably disaffected (?) in not being appointed to the position of a non-commissioned officer, which he so vainly sought, and which is the most prominent feature of grievance in his article on "Secret Societies." But "Tuscaloosa" must learn, if he has not already learned, that Army Regulations, with judicious officers to enforce their observance, will always bestow such favors upon none but the most capable and worthy of our enlisted men, who are, with very few exceptions, to be found among the sober class. PRIVATE M.

A third correspondent says:

"The sole object of the 'Order of Good Templars' is the advancement of temperance; first, by reclaiming the drunkard; next, by suppressing the whiskey traffic. The 'obligation' of the Order can in no way interfere with the duty of any one, either as a soldier, a citizen, or a man, and the statement that 'every member is required to put himself under solemn obligation to uphold and sustain a brother member at all hazards, regardless either of principle, truth, or honor,' is utterly and entirely without foundation in fact."

This correspondent sends us the following as the platform of the Independent Order of Good Templars of Minnesota, adopted May 19, 1858, and endorsed and adopted May 26, 1859, by the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of North America:

- I. Total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage.
- II. No license in any form or under any circumstances for the sale of such liquors to be used as a beverage.
- III. The absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation, and sale of intoxicating liquors—prohibition by the will of the people, expressed in due forms of law, with the penalties deserved for a crime of such enormity.
- IV. The creation of a healthy public opinion upon this subject by the active dissemination of truth in all the modes known to an enlightened philanthropy.
- V. The election of good, honest men to administer the laws.
- VI. Persistence in efforts to save individuals and communities from so direful a scourge, against all forms of opposition and difficulty, until our success is complete and universal.

## AN HONOR DECLINED.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Your correspondent "A Lover of Truth" will correct his error in ascribing the pasteboard problem to me. It was propounded by some other person, to whom I therefore transfer the flattering epithet of "notable."

I am indebted to his solution of that problem in your last for the gratification of my curiosity to see it solved in numbers. Thus:

Let  $a=8$ ,  $b=3$ , and  $x$  must be  $\frac{2}{3}$ .

In symbols:  $\frac{a+b \pm \sqrt{a^2-ab+b^2}}{6} = x$

In figures:  $\frac{8+3 \pm \sqrt{64-24+9}}{6} = \frac{11 \pm \sqrt{49}}{6} = 7$

Then  $\frac{8+3-7}{6} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3} = x$ . Contents, 7 11-27.

I am further gratified that his formula will also solve the problem when applied to the square;  $x$  will be a fraction in most cases. M. O. L. L. U. S.

## ARMY PAY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I would like very much to have placed in your paper a question or two in which a great many enlisted men of this command are deeply interested, viz.: When I enlisted, the inducements held out to me were that I should receive \$16 a month, and as clothing allowance for the first year, \$100 65; for the second year, \$62 54; for the third year, \$86 93; for the fourth year \$62 54; and for the fifth year, \$79 79. In recruiting, this was in printed form and guaranteed to me as well as to all others for the period for which I enlisted. There was no qualification; the recruiting officer never said that there would be any reductions in the pay or allowances. These were the stated amounts that I was to receive. Under these inducements I took the oath of enlistment and I have abided by that oath, as well as a great many others in this command. Now during this term of service, which has not yet expired, there have been two reductions in the clothing allowances, and the pay has fallen to \$13 a month, thereby putting me to some loss; the questions I would like to have answered by some gentleman whose knowledge of legal lore is infallible are these: Has the Government done right, and, if so, where? If not, can a just claim be presented for the losses which I and all the soldiers that have abided by their oaths have sustained, against the Government? A PRIVATE, COMPANY I, EIGHTH INFANTRY, DAVID'S ISLAND, NEW YORK HARBOR.

We would call the attention of this correspondent and others who have asked the same question to the following extract from the enlistment oath which bears the signature of every enlisted man: "I, ———, do hereby acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted this ——— day of ———, 18—, as a soldier in the Army of the United States of America, for the period of five years, unless sooner discharged by proper authority; do also agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be, established by law." Whatever the equity of the case, it is clear that our soldiers have no legal claim for any other pay and allowances than those now "established by law." A petition to Congress in some form is the only remedy for the hardships of a reduction of the emoluments they expected to receive when they enlisted.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.**—This command on Sunday morning last attended divine service at Lee Avenue Reformed Church, and listened to the farewell sermon of its chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Carroll, who has just severed his connection with this church and his military associates of the Thirteenth regiment. The regiment paraded some three hundred strong, in full dress uniform. Colonel Mason was in command; and the general appearance of the old Thirteenth as it marched to the church without music or arms was indeed very impressive. The church was filled to its utmost capacity, the regiment, as on former occasions, occupying the centre pews. The whole service was exceedingly solemn and suggestive. The services opened with a voluntary by the organist, Mr. Merriam, succeeding which the choir sang an anthem. The reading of a Scripture lesson and a prayer by the pastor followed in the order given, and then the glorious old hymn "America," in which all joined apparently in a whole-souled chorus, above which the organ swelled its powerful notes but slightly.

The discourse, an earnest combination of appeal and advice, applying as well to saint and sinner, was founded upon the words contained in 1st Corinthians, 16th chapter and 13th verse. This was a favorite metaphor of the Apostle Paul in his earnest endeavor to strengthen the faith of the early Christians. In the text he spoke as a military leader to his troops, and his utterances were the sharp and incisive language of a captain marshalling his men, enjoining upon them vigilance in the emergency of a battle imminent. These words apply to the present, too, in the great battle of life. All are instructed to watch lest the sentinel, conscience, sleep at his post, of which the devil, not an ignorant devil, but an educated devil, wily and far-seeing, might take advantage. The doctor, in comparing the carnal and spiritual warfare, said, if it was in his power to transcribe a motto from the banners of the former upon those of the church of God, he could not do better than adopt that of the Old Guard—"Die, but never surrender." This, with the battle-cry of Pulaski, "Forward," should be adopted by every Christian warrior, that, in fighting the great battles on earth, they may quit themselves like men, and not as cravens or skulkers. Reference was had to the recent war in Europe, in which the speaker held God's wisdom was revealed. It was not a war to settle boundary lines, by no manner of means, he asserted, but, on the contrary, to break the shackles of spiritual bondage and exalt the standard of freedom by the severance of the chains of despotism. In concluding his discourse Dr. Carroll pictured in eloquent and glowing terms the triumphant archway at the gates of heaven, to be looked upon by the faithful Christian soldier only, and the crown of rejoicing which God will eventually give to such as fight the good fight.

The singing of the "Coronation Hymn" and a benediction closed the morning service, after which the members of the regiment arose in a body, and, filing past the speaker's platform, bade adieu to their chaplain with a parting handshake. In addition to a full attendance of the officers of the regiment, there were present Lieutenant-Colonel Briggs, Major Daniels, Judge-Advocate-General Craig, Major-General Woodward, and General Dakin, of the Fifth brigade, with members of his staff, in civilian's dress.

On Sunday afternoon last the members of Company H of this regiment paraded as mourners and as funeral escort to the remains of Henry Smith, late drummer attached to this company. The company, under the command of Captain Hull, aided by volunteers from the companies of the regiment, paraded over one hundred men, forming, in fact, a fair-sized battalion. The funeral services were held at Plymouth Church, and the body was interred with the usual military honors at Greenwood Cemetery. The deceased for many months past had been ill and in indigent circumstances; and the company last winter gave a special entertainment at the State Arsenal for his benefit, and had since contributed largely towards his support, the members showing a generous and praiseworthy spirit in so doing. Like many other unfortunate National Guardsmen, the deceased sowed the seed of his death by exposure on the occasion of the Farragut obsequies in New York last fall, incipient consumption being the immediate cause of his death.

At an election held on Tuesday evening in Company F, Captain H. H. Beadle presiding, Second Lieutenant John W. Miles, Jr., was promoted first lieutenant, vice Powell, resigned, and Sergeant-Major William R. Syme elected second lieutenant. The company is to be congratulated on the selections made. Lieutenant Miles is one of the most promising young officers in the regiment, and well up in his duties. Lieutenant Syme is a veteran of the National Guard, a faithful, energetic, and trustworthy officer. This is the second time he has been elected second lieutenant of this company, and we trust he will now yield to the wishes of his old comrades.

Company A has nearly completed its arrangements for the Baltimore excursion next month; and we trust nothing will tend to interfere with the project.

**FIFTH INFANTRY.**—The following evenings are designated for division drills of this regiment for the next three months: Companies F and K, October 3 and 17, November 7 and 21, December 5 and 19; B and C, October 6 and 20, November 3 and 17, December 1 and 15; D and E, October 2 and 16, November 6 and 20, December 4 and 18; A and I, October 6 and 19, November 2 and 16, December 7 and 21; H, October 4 and 18, November 1 and 15, December 6 and 20. Commissioned officers' drills in fatigue dress, Mondays, October 9, November 13, and December 11; non-commissioned officers' drill, October 13, November 10, and December 8; officers' and non-commissioned officers' drill,

Wednesday, October 11. Line will be formed at 8 o'clock P. M. The adjutant and sergeant-major will call the roll of the officers and non-commissioned officers (respectively), and report the present and absent to these headquarters within twenty-four hours after each drill. Field music will drill as directed by Drum-Major Berohet. Band will practice as often as Band-Master Otto directs. Commandants of companies are directed to instruct their commands more particularly in the exercises of inspection and review. The lieutenant-colonel and major will superintend the division drills. The following members have been "dropped" in Company H for non-payment of dues, and the action of the company is approved by Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General John E. Bendix, the commandant: H. Hildebrandt, H. Kusch, H. Suhlson, C. Voss, S. Koch, J. Roskamp, Wm. Hasenkamp, and Charles Maehles.

This regiment will parade fully uniformed, armed, and equipped, for annual inspection and review, at Tompkins Square, on October 6. Line will be formed opposite the armory, in Hester street, at 1 o'clock P. M. Commandants of companies are ordered to have their company books and records at the regimental armory on the 17th of October, at 8 o'clock P. M., for inspection.

**BATTERY K, FIRST DIVISION.**—This battery, Captain John N. Heubner, is ordered to parade, fully uniformed, armed, and equipped (mounted), for inspection and muster by the division inspector, First division, on the 2d of October. Roll call at the armory, corner of White and Elm streets, at 7 o'clock A. M. After the inspection and muster the battery will proceed to Fashion Course, L. I., for field manoeuvres, and to take part in the opening ceremony of the festival to be given for the benefit of the Union Home and School for Destitute and Orphan Children of Soldiers and Sailors. This battery assembled in fatigue uniform, with side arms, on Thursday evening last at the armory, for drill and instruction.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—In compliance with brigade orders this regiment is ordered to parade for annual inspection and review in fatigue uniform, white belts, with knapsacks and overcoats rolled thereon, on October 9. Assembly at 2:30 o'clock P. M. Every enrolled member of the regiment is expected to be present at this inspection. Commandants of companies will forward their muster rolls to the adjutant at the armory on or before the 4th of October. Drills by company will commence on the 2d of October, and be continued weekly until the 1st of April, 1872. Major Smith is detailed to superintend the drills by company, with the particular object in view of securing perfect uniformity in all military exercises. Officers and non-commissioned officers are enjoined by the regimental commandant to be prompt and thorough in the performance of every duty connected with company instruction, and to spare no effort to improve the drill and discipline of their respective companies. Commandants, being responsible for the proper instruction of the new members of their companies, should detail as their assistants for that duty such officers and non-commissioned officers (without regard to rank) as are most distinguished for their military accomplishments, and should exercise a constant and careful supervision of the classes under instruction in the school of the soldier. Absence from drills, unless positively necessary, should be universally discountenanced as being detrimental to all military improvement, and unjust to those who are faithful to their duties. William S. Flagg having been expelled by Company B, the action of said company is confirmed by Colonel Emmons Clark.

**NINTH INFANTRY.**—Pursuant to the by-laws of K company (Fisk Guard), regular company drills will commence October 4, and continue every Wednesday evening thereafter during the season. The commandant earnestly hopes that every member of the company will use his best endeavors to be present at all the drills during the season.

The attention of the members of this command is called by Captain Spencer to the annual inspection, which will take place on the 11th of October; and as it is desired to inspect every man, the commandant desires that all will make arrangements to be present on that day. As an incentive to recruiting Captain Spencer has offered a gold medal to the member proposing the largest number of recruits during the ensuing year, such medal to be known as the "recruiting medal," and to be worn each year by the member bringing in the greatest number of recruits. Privates James B. Lathrop and John A. Ruffner are appointed on the company court-martial in place of O. D. Squire, promoted quartermaster-sergeant, and John Hogan, removed from district. The recruit squad is placed in charge of Quartermaster-Sergeant O. D. Squire for the season, and will meet for instruction on Monday, October 2, and every Monday and Wednesday thereafter until admitted into the company.

**RELATIVE POSITION OF COLORS.**—We are in receipt of a communication, addressed to the JOURNAL, from Mr. Wm. Wright, New Orleans, La., requesting information as to the proper emplacement of the National and State colors. The subject has previously been submitted to the Adjutant-General of the United States for his opinion in the matter. Mr. Wright maintains that the national ensign should have precedence, and be carried on the right of the State colors, when the two colors are carried. This subject has already excited no little amount of interest among Regulars as well as National Guardsmen.

On examination of the "Blue Book," we find recorded on page 461, under the heading of "Flags, Colors, etc.," par-

agraph 1,465, that each regiment of artillery "shall have" two silken colors, "the first," or "national color," of "stars and stripes." From this we are led to infer that, although the Regulations call for two colors for each regiment, they also establish the fact that the national emblem is the first, and should therefore be given the precedence on occasions of ceremony, whenever the two colors are in line. It is also contrary to manifest propriety that troops which are governed by the military laws of the United States, as well as those of their several States, should give the symbol of the supreme authority the subordinate place.

We publish with pleasure the following note from Mr. Benton correcting a misapprehension on the part of our reporter in relation to the arms trial at Springfield, Mass.:

New York, September 26, 1871.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In your issue of the 23d inst. only four guns were enumerated to the representatives of which invitations to submit their arms for trial before the New York Board at Springfield were sent. The Peabody gun was also submitted at that trial upon special invitation of the committee to me, and successfully passed through all the trials required by the committee.

MARSHALL F. BENTON,  
Sole Special Agent Peabody Rifle Company, 11 Warren street.

**THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE IMPRISONMENT ACT.**—In a recent issue we announced in brief the decision in the case tried before the Supreme Court of the Second Judiciary Department at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., relative to the constitutionality of the imprisonment act, as involved in the case of *The People ex rel. Edward P. Underwood* against Edward S. Daniell, major and president of the court-martial Thirteenth regiment N. G. S. N. Y. The case was ably defended by General James B. Craig, the well-known Judge-Advocate-General of New York State, assisted by Mr. H. E. Sickels; Mr. John E. Burrill appearing for respondent. The facts of this case, which was tried before Judges J. F. Barnard, Gilbert, and Pratt at the General Term, are as follows:

The relator, a private in Company H, Thirteenth regiment of the National Guard of the State of New York, asks to review the proceedings of a court-martial by which he was adjudged delinquent in not attending certain parades and drills specified in the judgment, and for which he was fined \$15, and for the non-payment of which a warrant was issued. The relator admits that he was a private in said company; that he failed to attend the drills and parades mentioned; that he was duly notified to attend before the court-martial; and that he did appear. The relator insisted before the court-martial, as he does in this proceeding—

I. That the provisions of the Military Code (chapter 80 of laws of 1870) passed March 17, 1870, organizing courts-martial and prescribing their method of procedure and the method of enforcement of the sentences thereof, are in violation of the Constitution of the United States and of the State of New York, and particularly of article V. of the first amendment of the Federal Constitution and of sections 1, 2, and 6 of article I. of the Constitution of the State of New York.

The said objection was overruled.

II. The said delinquent further demanded that he be permitted to be represented by counsel, and the request was denied.

III. The said delinquent also demanded that he be tried by a jury, which request was denied.

It is conceded that the court-martial in question was organized under the act of March 17, 1870 (chapter 80 laws of 1870), and that its proceedings were had under that act, and that the validity, effect, and construction of that act are to be determined here.

The proceedings as usual are very voluminous, covering in detail every point of the law; but the decision of this court cannot help but set at rest any further trouble in relation to these matters as far as the National Guard court-martials of New York State are directly concerned. We append in full the opinion of the court:

*By the Court, Gilbert, J.*—The relator is a private in Company H of the Thirteenth regiment of the National Guard. He has sued out this writ of *certiorari* in order to obtain a review of the proceedings of a court-martial organized and held pursuant to article 13 of chapter 80 of the laws of 1870, known as the Military Code. The court-martial adjudged him to have been delinquent in not attending certain parades and drills specified in the judgment, and sentenced him to be fined therefor, which fines in the aggregate amounted to \$18. The findings and sentence were duly approved by the brigadier-general; whereupon the respondent, as president of the court-martial, issued him a warrant to the marshal, directing him to levy and collect said fines, of his coat, of his goods and chattels of the relator, and in default thereof to arrest the relator and convey him to the county jail of the county of Kings. It was not disputed on the part of the relator that all these proceedings were conformable to and authorized by the said act of 1870, but it was urged on his behalf that the provisions of said act relating to courts-martial are unconstitutional and void.

The attempt to use the writ of *certiorari* for the purpose of reviewing the proceedings of a court-martial is certainly novel. We do not perceive any ground on which it can be upheld, but as the point was not contested by the learned counsel for the respondent, we will not discuss it here. The conclusion at which we have arrived renders it unnecessary to do so. With respect to the merits, it was conceded that the court-martial was organized and proceeded according to the statute. The first question presented is whether courts-martial are authorized by the Constitution. That instrument contains no words which expressly authorize such courts. But we think the Legislature has, irrespective of its general powers, the specific power to create them under article XI. of the Constitution. The first section of that article provides that "the militia of this State shall at all times hereafter be armed and disciplined and in readiness for service."

This is a positive requirement of the fundamental law, and of necessity involves the power of carrying it into effect. The Legislature, therefore, as the supreme power of the State, have the authority, and it is their duty to pass appropriate laws to effectuate the object intended. They are the exclusive judges of what laws are proper for this purpose. It cannot be said that the provisions of the statute establishing courts-martial and regulating their proceedings are not fairly within this power. The power to discipline the militia is *per se* a power to provide for trial and punishment by courts-martial, for such courts have always formed a constituent part of the military systems in this country and in England. As was said by the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of *Milligan* (4 Wall, 123), "the discipline necessary to the efficiency of the Army and Navy requires other and swifter modes of trial than are furnished by the common law courts, and in pursuance of the power conferred by the Constitution Congress has ordered the kinds of trial and the manner in which they shall be conducted for offences committed while the party is in the military or naval service. Every one connected with these branches of the public service is amenable to the jurisdiction which Congress has created for their government." The providing of courts-martial as one of the means of discipline for the militia is rendered obligatory on the States by the legislation of Congress to which the court in the passage quoted refers. For by the Constitution of the United States the power to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia is conferred upon Congress, subject only to the power which is reserved to the States respectively, namely, of appointing the officers, and of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress. Congress has prescribed this discipline, and in doing so has provided for courts-martial. The States, in the exercise of the power reserved to them on this subject, are bound to conform to this legislation of Congress. Congress, however, has not made specific provisions for the formation of courts-martial, or to regulate their proceedings when formed.



The only provision is that "courts-martial for the trial of militia shall be composed of militia officers only" (act of 1795, section 6). In the absence of legislation by Congress, the States have full power and jurisdiction over this subject, qualified, at most, by the limitation that the courts when constituted shall be military courts. (Cons. U. S., art. 1, sec. 8, sub. 15; Brightley's Dig. 619 et seq.; Houston v. Moore, 5 Wheat., 1; Martin v. Mott, 12 id., 19.)

It is contended on behalf of the relator that article VI. of the Constitution of this State, which establishes and prescribes the courts of this State, and authorizes the Legislature to establish inferior local courts, has the effect to prohibit the establishment of courts other than those enumerated which are not local; that courts-martial are not enumerated and are not local, and are therefore within this prohibition. We are of opinion that this article of the Constitution has no reference to military courts, but applies exclusively to courts of civil jurisdiction. The framers of the Constitution, and the people who passed it, must have known that courts-martial were among the usual means for the disciplining of the militia, and had been established by Congress; and if there had existed a design to prohibit them, notwithstanding the provision of the Constitution of the United States before cited, which effectually excludes the power to do so, we think it would have been manifested in express words.

If the foregoing views are correct, it is quite manifest that the provisions inserted in the Constitution of this State and of the United States for the protection of the life, liberty, property, and rights of the citizens (N. Y. Const., art. 1, sections 1 and 6; U. S. Const., art. 5, first amendment) have no application to this case. Nor does the provision of the Constitution of this State, that the trial by jury in all cases in which it has been heretofore used shall remain inviolate forever, govern courts-martial, for the reason that those courts existed long prior to the Constitution, and the trial by jury never prevailed or was used in them. Indeed, such a mode of trial would be wholly incompatible with the object, end, and organization of courts-martial.

The only remaining objections brought to our notice are, that the trial of the relator was not in public as required by 2 R. S., 274, section 1, and that he was not allowed to appear and defend with counsel.

With respect to the first of these, it is sufficient to say that the statute referred to is contained in part 3 of the Revised Statutes, which, according to the rule of interpretation established by the case of *The People v. Molinoux*, 53 Barb., 10 G. C., 49 N. Y. R., 113, is limited to courts and ministers of justice and proceedings in civil cases, and cannot be extended so as to embrace military courts. The answer to the last objection is not quite so plain. Nevertheless we are of opinion that the proper construction of section 6 of article I. of the Constitution, securing the right to appear and defend with counsel, is that it relates only to trials of persons accused of crimes or offences before the ordinary tribunals. It cannot be supposed that this provision of the Constitution was intended to prescribe any part of the discipline of the militia, for this is required to be according to the discipline prescribed by Congress, and Congress might therefore at any time render the constitutional provision inoperative. The language of that clause of the section in which the right to defend with counsel is given is appropriate only to criminal prosecutions, and the right itself is to appear and defend as in civil actions. The fair import of this language is, to secure the same right to defend with counsel in criminal cases as in civil actions.

Upon the whole we are of opinion that the proceedings sought to be reviewed are regular and valid. Judgment accordingly.

**THIRD BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.**—The several regiments of this brigade, Brigadier-General J. M. Varian, and the First Troop Washington Grays, are ordered to parade, uniformed and fully equipped, for annual inspection and review on Tompkins Square, at 2:30 o'clock P. M., as follows: Seventh regiment, October 9; Eighth regiment, October 10; First Troop Washington Grays, October 10; Ninth regiment, October 11; Fifty-fifth regiment, October 12; First regiment, October 13. Brigade staff will report at 60 St. Mark's place on Monday, October 9, at 2 o'clock P. M., dismounted.

**BATTERY G, FIRST DIVISION.**—In compliance with orders from division headquarters this battery will parade in full uniform, armed and equipped, for inspection and muster, on October 5. Roll call at the armory at 8 o'clock A. M. The battery will assemble in fatigue uniform for drill at the armory on October 4, and on every succeeding Wednesday evening until further orders. Roll call each evening at 8 o'clock P. M.

**THE QUESTION OF A NEW ARM.**—It is understood that the official report of the New York State Commission upon breech-loaders has been rendered to Governor Hoffman. Before many days the National Guard will be advised of the particular system of arm with which it is to be equipped.

**FIRST BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION.**—The dates and hour of the inspection and muster of the various organizations of this brigade have been changed, so that there will now be no conflict with those selected for the different commands of the Third brigade, as noted in our last issue, in accordance with previous orders from headquarters. The General Orders for this change have not as yet been promulgated, but the following are the dates: Twelfth Infantry, October 16; Twenty-second Infantry, October 17; Seventy-first Infantry, October 18; Sixty-ninth Infantry, October 23; Seventy-ninth (battalion) Infantry, October 24; First Cavalry, October 25. Review to take place at 2:30 P. M. These changes, we think, especially of the time, will be decidedly more satisfactory to all concerned.

**SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.**—This command paraded in full dress uniform on Thursday and Friday for the purpose of receiving and escorting the United Train of Artillery of Providence on its return from its Philadelphia excursion. The Providence visitors during both days were entertained in true American Guard style, the details of which we will give in another issue.

The following changes are announced in this command: Samuel C. Smith to be second lieutenant, vice Higgins, resigned; Second Lieutenant Theodore V. Smith to be first lieutenant. Captain Alfred Spear, Captain Samuel W. Osgood, and Adjutant A. T. Francis have resigned. The resignation of these officers is accepted with regret by the commandant, and especially so in the case of Adjutant A. T. Francis. His long-continued and valuable services in the interest of this regiment make his loss the more deeply felt, and the good wishes of the command go with him into his retirement. Sergeant-Major George A. J. Norman has been appointed adjutant, vice Francis, resigned; Sergeant Davis Graham, left general guide, vice Hagedorn, promoted; and Private John Simpson, Jr., ordnance sergeant, vice Kennedy, resigned. The attention of the veteran members of this command is again called to the fact that they are not fin-

able for absence from drills and parades, though their presence with us is at all times desirable. Private Armstrong, Company A, is reprimanded in General Orders for conduct unbecoming a soldier. "It is the duty of a soldier," the commandant states, "at all times and under all circumstances to obey the orders of his superior officer, and any questioning of authority is a breach of discipline that will not be overlooked." The colonel commanding, in orders, compliments the officers and men for the promptness and cheerfulness with which they obeyed all orders on the occasion of the late riot, and acknowledges the pride he feels in commanding such an organization. He also states that he cannot pass over the occasion of the late Providence excursion without also thanking them for their conduct on that trip; and to say that the behavior of the men was on each occasion beyond all praise, is simply to recognize their conduct in fitting terms.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—The following is the last General Orders issued from the headquarters of this command. It will undoubtedly be perused with much satisfaction by the many admirers of its talented composer:

**TWELFTH INFANTRY N. G. S. N. Y.**

**AIR—"Garry Owen."**

**BY COLONEL JOHN WARD.**

Here's a health to the Twelfth. 'Tis a regiment true,  
And staunch to its colors, the red, white, and blue;  
And sing the loved flag ever proudly in view  
That braves the wild waves in commotion!

**CHORUS:**

Then, comrades, hail the name we prize;  
While o'er our ranks the standard flies,  
Each veteran's heart responsive vies  
In memory's fond emotion.

The breezes are dancing around every fold,  
As gleams the proud standard in radiance of gold;  
A century's winds sweep around and uphold  
The bright stars and stripes in their motion.

The armory glows with a soft, mellow light,  
As gayly we waken the echoes of night  
With cheers for the "service," that bids us unite  
In close-pressed ranks of devotion.

Our regiment proved itself true to the last,  
When war through our land blew its terrible blast,  
And proudly we cherish a glorious past,  
That shines o'er oblivion's ocean.

The privates and officers cordially blend  
In vowing our honors shall ne'er know an end,  
While true hearts and bold gaithers round to defend  
A flag too immortal to perish.

An adjourned meeting of the veterans of the Baxter Blues, Company H, Twelfth regiment N. Y. S. M. (formerly Independent Tompkins Blues), will be held at the Twelfth regiment armory, Thirty-fourth street and Broadway, on Monday evening, October 2, at 8 o'clock. General Thomas W. Sweeny is chairman and C. H. Pine secretary of this association, which is to form the nucleus of the Twelfth's Veteran Association.

The following changes have just been made on the staff of Colonel Ward, commanding this regiment: Dr. Edward White promoted surgeon, vice Weeks, removed from the State, and Dr. Robert Taylor assistant surgeon, vice White, promoted.

The regular drills of Company G, Captain McGowan, will commence on Tuesday next, and be continued weekly until the last Tuesday in April, 1872.

**NEW JERSEY.—Rifle Practice.**—Major-General Runyon has ordered rifle practice in his command. The annual competition for prizes will take place at the Waverley Fair Grounds on October 3, and the prizes contested for will be as follows: The Governor's medal, open exclusively to commissioned officers; the Major-General's medal, open to every member of the division; and a gold-mounted Winchester rifle presented last year, but the contest for which did not take place at the annual gathering last season at Clifton. No money or other prizes have yet been announced, and we fear the general competition will not for obvious reasons be as spirited as last year. The general commanding deserves much credit for the commendable manner in which he has followed up the introduction of rifle practice in the New Jersey National Guard, and his example should be immediately followed by the different division commanders not only of New York State, but throughout the entire National Guard of the country. The rifle practice as introduced in New Jersey is carried out on the Hythe system, and the arrangements in former years, through the indefatigable exertions of Colonel Shaw, the former lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth New Jersey, have been very perfect. Colonel Van Buskirk of the Fourth and Captain Matthew Dunlap of the Second Infantry have charge of the details of this competition, and it is presumed under their direction the government of the match will be creditable, and to the interest of the New Jersey National Guard.

We are glad to observe the fact that last year's rifle practice at a target in New Jersey left so excellent results as are reported in the following extract from the *Newark Daily Advertiser's* correspondence from the Dover encampment of the Second N. J. S. N. G. The broken flagstaff was pointed out to us while visiting the camp:

To day a target having been placed in position, some good rifle practice was made, in which several officers distinguished themselves. The best shot, however, was made by Sergeant Eagles, Company C, who, with a Remington rifle, severed the cap of a flagstaff, which stands on the mountain above the camp, by the first shot, and at a distance of about 500 yards. This good shooting, followed by some excellent shots by others, aroused the enthusiasm of the camp.

**VARIOUS ITEMS.**—Company I, Twelfth Infantry, in company orders announces to the members of this command that the summer recess is now at an end, and that the regular drill season will commence October 5. Members of this command will assemble every Thursday evening in full uniform (without leggings or epaulettes), excepting the third Thursday in each month; roll call at 8 P. M. The regular monthly meetings will be held as usual on the third Thursday of each month. The commandant expects that as the drill season will be short each member will use his utmost exertions to sustain the officers in their efforts by being present at every drill. A roll of attendance will be published in company orders at the end of the season. Veteran and honorary members are cordially invited to attend the drills and meetings. The commandant of this company, Captain John H. French, has been appointed senior aid on the staff of General Funk, commanding Second brigade. First Lieutenant Wm. H. Schwabe is now in charge of the company..... Colonel Harry Rockefeller, Seventy-first Infantry N. G., has addressed a letter to Messrs. Schuyler, Hartley & Graham, in which he says: "It gives me great pleasure to bear witness to the superior merits of the Remington 43 calibre musket, breech-loader, now in possession of my regiment. It has been in constant use since April 1, as I have exercised my command both at the target and with blank cartridges for rapidity, and after every test I can safely recommend this musket as the best now in use. My men are more than pleased at the easy manner in which the gun can be handled for practice in the manual, and their light weight makes them much easier carried than the old musket. I am ready at all times to bear witness to the good qualities of a musket which practice has proved satisfactorily to me to be the best the State could adopt." Colonel Fred. A. Mason, Thirteenth Infantry N. G., in answer to a request for his opinion of this gun, with which his command has been armed for several months, says: "Owing to the suspension (on account of the heated term) of active duty during a considerable portion of the time during which the gun has been in use by this regiment, I have not had sufficient opportunity for observation to enable me to report as minutely upon all points as I could wish, but I have seen enough (particularly during the riots of July 12) to confirm the opinion heretofore expressed to you, viz., that for simplicity, safety, and effectiveness, it is the best adapted to the use of the National Guard of any breech-loading gun that I have ever seen. I have also observed that the troops have individually an increased confidence and liking for the arm every time they use it. I have no doubt the board appointed for the purpose of recommending or selecting a breech-loading arm for the National Guard will act wisely, and I, personally, would be glad to see them adopt the Remington.".....At a recent encampment in the vicinity of New York State, the Governor of the State to which the troops are attached was invited, amid much flourish and trumpeting, to review on a certain day the regiment encamped, which invitation was duly accepted and carried into effect. At the conclusion of the review the Governor and party entered the headquarters tent with the expectation of receiving the usual courtesies and being entertained with a glass of wine, etc.; but much to their disgust, nothing of the kind was offered. During the brief social converse which followed, the regimental commander spoke of the excellent conduct of the troops during the encampment, and enthusiastically praised the sobriety of the men, stating that during the entire encampment not a solitary case of intoxication had been reported. To this complacent assertion the Governor *drily* replied that he judged that to be the fact, for he considered it the *driest* place he had ever visited; that in fact he had been "splitting cotton" ever since he arrived. The party soon after separated, the air being altogether too dry for this Governor and his thirsty followers..... In a recent issue we announced that General Headquarters had forbidden the wearing of gold-laced sword-belts and baldrics by the field and staff of the National Guard. The Albany *Argus*, however, says that by this statement we have conveyed an erroneous impression, and that the Special Orders relating thereto applied only to the First Cavalry of the First division, and that in giving approval to the bill of dress presented by this regiment the acting Adjutant-General struck out these gold-laced portions of the equipments, and substituted the black leather regulation belt. We were well aware at the time of this fact; but had we not every reason to believe from such an order that the acting Adjutant-General was about to direct all future bills of dress to comply with this portion of the regulations? Why make this single exception? If the field and staff of other regiments are allowed the privilege of gold belts, why shall not the First Cavalry have the same right? If an exception has been made, General Headquarters has done something for which we cannot account. The equipments of the First Cavalry's field and staff will hereafter appear dimly against those of the gaily equipped officers of other commands, especially when assembled in a body or on gala occasions.....On the occasion of the New Haven Grays' reception the Twelfth New York received upwards of a dozen recruits from the Forty-seventh (in the shape of gray file-closers). Adjutant Murphy of the Twelfth sang "Rock the Cradle, Pat," to an admiring audience on board of the *Fort Lee*, while retreating from Williamsburgh toward Thirty-fourth street, North River, time 3 P. M. Good.....Ordnance-Sergeant John Simpson of the Seventy-first has determined to withhold calling into active service his Rocky Point Fire Department during the visit of the United Train; however, he endeavored to supply the deficiency by responding to Colonel Eddy's (deferred) speech. John did well on the occasion of the Forty-seventh's reception, and sang several very fine "cantos" in return for "Jesus's" Travellers.....The death of Colonel James Kelly is announced at Jackson, Miss. He joined the Sixty-ninth regiment New York Volunteers as captain, and so distinguished himself for his bravery that he was three times bre-



voted for gallant conduct. At the battle of Antietam he led the charge of the Irish brigade as colonel, under General Meagher, and was severely wounded in the face. At the close of the war he was rewarded for meritorious conduct by a captaincy in the Regular Army, and assigned to the Sixteenth regiment Infantry. Colonel Kelly was well known from his connection with the Sixty-ninth regiment and Meagher's Irish brigade, and was always spoken of as a gallant soldier. His remains will be brought to New York for interment.

#### OUT-OF-TOWN ITEMS.

**THE NATIONAL GUARD.**—Senator R. E. Fenton, formerly Governor of New York State, in answer to an invitation to attend the encampment of the Buffalo Independent Battalion, sent a letter containing many wise and sound sentiments concerning the State militia and its necessity. The letter has been published in General Orders by Colonel Wm. S. Bull, commanding the battalion, and reads as follows:

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., August 19, 1871.  
Colonel Wm. S. Bull, Commanding Independent Battalion National Guard.

MY DEAR SIR: I shall be detained in the West beyond the period of your encampment on our beautiful lake. I greatly regret that I cannot be there to welcome you, to visit with you, and witness your good—I feel sure it will be good—military display. I have for many years felt a deep interest in the organization and maintenance of an effective military force in our State. During the period that I was Governor I omitted no proper opportunity to press upon the attention of the Legislature and our citizens the importance of a well-regulated citizen-soldiery in the more populous districts of the commonwealth. Our common experience shows that the benefit of such a military body cannot be too highly estimated. With an enlightened people a complete militia system enlists upon the side of law and order a large number of the best citizens, and creates an organized force of sufficient strength to discourage or repel outbreaks against the peace and quiet of society. Besides, it tends to keep bright the chastened memories of the nation's trials and triumphs, and excites more exalted feelings of personal responsibility to the Government. It is unwise, however, as well as impracticable, to organize the whole arms-bearing population. On the other hand, we could not create a class militia without making distinctions opposed to the genius of our institutions. It is a source of pride, therefore, to turn to our National Guard organization and militia system as the best solution of the question yet found in any of the States. Its patriotic character and good discipline has already deservedly attained high reputation.

Congratulating your command, I beg you all to accept my best wishes for the pleasure of your visit to Chautauque county, with the assurance that in the future, as in the past, whatever I can do to promote the welfare of and strengthen our "National Guard," will cheerfully be done. Very truly yours,  
R. E. FENTON.

**RHODE ISLAND.**—Colonel Henry Allen has resigned the position of assistant quartermaster on the staff of General Charles R. Brayton, to accept that of personal aid to General Burnside, grand commander of the Grand Army.

The United Train, Colonel Allen, passed through New York city some seventy strong, en route for Philadelphia, on Tuesday morning last. Arriving in the latter city, the Train was received by the Second Infantry, Colonel Neff. The greatest enthusiasm was manifested by citizens and soldiery, and the fine appearance of the Trainers caused a great sensation in the hospitable city of Philadelphia. The usual speeches of welcome were made at Independence Hall, and all of them were of the most flattering nature. The Train afterward visited the Union League, the Mint, and Baldwin's works. On Wednesday afternoon they were driven through the park, and in the evening banqueted by the Second regiment at its armory.

The details of the trip and the reception in New York by the Seventy-first we shall give next week.

**PENNSYLVANIA.**—The State Military Convention.—In our last issue we commented on the proposed Military Convention to be held at Harrisburg on October 3, and canvassed its vast benefits to the National Guard if such an organization be made up of active and progressive members. The Philadelphia Evening Telegraph in a recent issue makes the following sensible remarks on the same subject, which are worthy of special consideration by not only this convention, but by every member of the State military:

It is proposed to hold a Military Convention at Harrisburg on October 3, on the basis of one representative for every two hundred enlisted men. Exactly what it is intended this convention shall do, or what improvements are expected to be brought about by its agency, we know not; but unless an earnest discussion of the requirements of our militia system takes place, and measures are adopted to bring about the improvements needed, the convention might as well not meet. That the militia system is radically defective no one having the slightest acquaintance with it will be disposed to deny, but the difficulties in the way of a proper reform are many and great, and it will require thoughtful and clear-headed efforts to remove them. There is no doubt that very much can be accomplished by such a convention as has been proposed if it is conducted in a proper spirit, and a better agency for deciding what reforms are needed and upon the best methods of inaugurating them could scarcely be devised. One of the first subjects that ought to be discussed is the provision for the support of the militia, which is wholly inadequate at present. The militia tax does not pay the expenses of the militia establishment of the State, but is nevertheless an intolerable nuisance to the non-military portion of the community. If our militia organization is of any value whatever, it is worth being supported in proper style at the expense of the entire body of tax-payers, and the present militia tax should be done away with as soon as possible, as wrong in principle and most objectionable in practice. The convention can do nothing that will benefit the military of the State more than by preparing a petition to the Legislature for the abolition of this tax, and for the enactment of laws which will provide for the collection in a proper manner of an annual sum equal to the support of the militia on a basis suited to the dignity of the State. The subject of the organization of the militia has never yet received the attention it deserves from the Legislature, and our various military organizations depend now, as they always have depended, upon private enterprise more than upon public aid for their efficiency. This will probably always be the case, but the Legislature can and ought to do far more than it ever has done yet, and what is now required is for intelligent men who are interested in military affairs to carefully prepare a comprehensive plan for the thorough organization, discipline, and support of the militia, to be submitted first to the public for criticism and approval, and then to be presented to the Legislature with a request that it be made the law of the State.

The theory of supporting a State militia by a direct military State tax imposed on the non-military community has never succeeded, and has long since practically demonstrated its inefficiency. As the Telegraph suggests, it should be one of the first duties of this Military Convention to urge an immediate abolition of the whole system. The time is now ripe for more activity in the Pennsylvania National Guard, and it only requires wise action on the part of this convention to secure that desirable condition of things.

#### FOREIGN MILITARY AND NAVAL ITEMS.

FROM 1859 to 1865 the average number of recruits who joined the British army annually was 17,000; the average number of desertions 3,000, of whom 1,000 rejoined.

The famous Prussian State treasure, which has enabled the King of the country to take up a war at an instant's notice, and with full coffers, has been abolished, being replaced by a similar German fund.

Up to the 1st of April last there had been raised, in about ten years £5,905,000 to provide for the expenses of British fortifications. The money was raised at 3½ per cent., and the principal and interest are being repaid by annuities amounting to £420,085, all expiring on the 5th of April, 1885. The sum authorized by Parliament is £7,460,000; so that there still remains £1,355,000 to be raised under acts already passed.

MR. DION, of New York, proposes to place on board vessels an apparatus which will give an alarm when the vessel is in the vicinity of icebergs. This apparatus, placed at the bottom of the hold, is such, that when the keel is in very cold waters, it sounds an alarm; thus a signal is given of the vicinity of icebergs, which cool the water to a great distance around them. This instrument serves also as a thermometer and shows at all times the temperature of the water under the ship.

AN "Old Soldier," writing to the *Broad Arrow*, says that instead of socks, he should like to see an experiment made with the bandage and oil rag of the Prussians, having been assured that by being enabled to shift the bandages from time to time the soldiers experienced the greatest relief, and they had fewer men foot-sore than it is possible for us to imagine. These bandages, known in this country as "California socks," are much used by the trappers and miners in the West, who wear them in preference to socks.

THE British papers are very angry over the grounding of the *Repulse* on a bank near the Nore Light plainly laid down on the charts. The *Repulse* is a twelve-gun iron-clad, drawing twenty-three feet of water, while there is only twenty-two feet on the bank. She was pulled off at high tide. The vessel is probably uninjured, but the fact of her stranding in a place so well known, and on a bank laid down in every chart, makes the English critics furious. Captain Rolland and Staff-Commander Ley, who were on the bridge when the mishap occurred, will doubtless suffer severely.

THE peril at which army surgeons pursue their vocation in time of war is shown by the fact recorded in the *Lancet*, that of the German military medical officers in France, six died on the field of battle, sixty-six after gunshot wounds, two were accidentally killed, twenty-five died of disease, and two met their death in consequence of imprudence. Thus seventy-two at least out of 101 surgeons who missed the number of their mess, have met their fate in common with the combative officers and soldiers who have gone down before the enemy.

THERE was a ludicrous embarrassment in Peru some time ago. A Russian war-steamer arriving at Callao saluted the Peruvian fleet, which was anchored in the bay. To the chagrin of the Russian commander the compliment was received in silence. After waiting for some time to see if the omission would be repaired, he demanded an explanation. This promptly came in the statement that "the Peruvian navy had been disarmed by order of the President." In a word, there was not a gun left on board the fleet. The object of the President in thus stripping the ships of their armament was not set forth.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Army and Navy Gazette* gives a description of the method used in Dublin for laying a sea-wall. Masses of stone and rubble mixed with Portland cement are built up in a frame-work until the whole becomes a solid mass weighing about 350 tons. This is taken up by a powerful crane, moved about two hundred yards, and laid in position. The crane employed cost about \$100,000, and consists of a floating derrick one side of which can be weighted with water to counterbalance the immense load. Eleven of these blocks have already been laid, and it is thought that when five hundred feet of the embankment are laid the machinery will have paid for itself, comparing expenses with those incurred in laying the Thames embankment. Our New York friends who are working to establish a system of stone wharves around their city might take a lesson from this experience.

M. EDMOND MARTIN, of Paris, proposes, in a letter to *Les Mondes*, the employment on board sailing vessels of a screw which shall communicate during the course the movement to the discs of a magneto-electric machine. The number of sailing vessels is considerable as compared with that of steamers; the employment of electric signals to avoid collisions at sea has become practicable, as proved by the trials made in the French navy and by the Transatlantic Company. In M. Martin's scheme, a screw is mounted in the ordinary place; this is rotated by the resistance of the water on the blades during the course. This screw, which of course only works during the movement of the ship, drives a magneto-electric machine, and develops a force of from one to two-horse power. The irregularities in this motive power can be easily compensated, and besides its special duty it can be utilized for several other purposes, such as driving pumps, or producing ventilation throughout the ship.

ACCORDING to the *Avenir Liberal* the ministerial proposition to be submitted to the French National Assembly, on the recommendation of the Budget Committee, will provide for expenditure on account of an effective force of 430,000 men. This force will be thus constituted: Staff, 5,000 men; gendarmerie, 23,000; 106 regiments of infantry, 210,000; thirty battalions of foot chasseurs, 20,000; four regiments of Zouaves, 4,000; three battalions of African light infantry, 3,000; seven disciplinary companies, 2,000; foreign regiment, 4,000; three regiments Algerian tirailleurs, 9,000; fifty-six regiments of cavalry, 47,000; four regiments chasseurs d'Afrique, 6,000; nine

remount companies and depots, 5,400; three regiments of Spahis, 6,000; twenty-four regiments artillery, 45,000; two regiments artillery train, 9,000; three regiments engineers, 10,000; four companies of construction, 10,000; administrative services, 19,000; total, 430,000. The effective force provided for in the budget of 1870 was 400,000 men and 90,822 horses, requiring an expenditure of 373,001,182 francs.

BAVARIA proves unwilling to incorporate her army into that of Prussia. Instead of one army, as expected and proposed, there are to be two, viz.: one German and one Bavarian. In order to assimilate the latter to the former, it was recently announced that of the ten battalions of rifles, eight, or at least seven, would be converted into infantry battalions, the Northern army only allowing one rifle battalion to each corps. The cuirassiers were to be turned into Uhlans, and the light horse into dragoons. All these changes are now contradicted, the reason being that they would remove all peculiarities which form the pride of the Bavarian army. The same applies to the reported changes of uniforms. The concessions made by Bavaria to its ally thus reduce themselves to the adoption of the brigade and regimental system of the Northern military nomenclature, of the same bugle signals, and of the Prussian education for officers. Both rifle and artillery pieces remain entirely different, the artillery organization decidedly so, and even the cavalry organization will be still conducted on the old system. Above all, King Louis insists on retaining the command of his army in his own hands, except in time of war, and refuses to allow any Prussian interference.

THE Russian *Invalide* describes the operations of the military railway corps in connection with the fall manoeuvres in Russia. The number of men collected from the railway companies of the different regiments amounts to 400. The various detachments arrived at the Russian War Office on the 5th of August. The road was finished in a week's time, the first train running over it August 16. On the 8th of August at 6 P. M., the men were despatched by express train to the two opposite points of the projected railway. The operations began on the 9th. The materials for the construction of the railway, which had been sent from St. Petersburg and Moscow, were first removed from the wagons, which occupied an hour and a quarter, and the men then commenced the works of the new line. On the side of Ligovo 90 men of the sappers company and 208 of the railway detachment were employed. In the course of the day these men fixed all the telegraphic posts for the distance of a verst (three-quarters of an English mile) by making an opening in a wood; made an embankment, with pipes under it to carry off the water; and commenced building a railway station. On the other side of Kamenka 80 sappers and 215 men of the railway companies were employed. On the first day eighty telegraphic posts were fixed, and similar works performed to those at the other end of the line.

THE report by the British Admiralty upon the working of Mr. Reid's Indian troop ships during the past season, has been issued. The average speed of the ships was close upon nine knots an hour, as the following figures show. In a parallel column we also indicate the number of miles run by each vessel:

	Mean speed.	Distance run.
Serapis.....	9.67.....	24,550
Crocodile.....	8.45.....	17,061
Euphrates.....	9.21.....	17,663
Jumna.....	8.71.....	14,830
Malabar.....	8.85.....	17,050

The break-down of the *Serapis* involved an outlay of £2,848, which was borne by the Admiralty. The total working expenses were:

Serapis.....	£39,100
Crocodile.....	34,985
Euphrates.....	63,899
Jumna.....	59,180
Malabar.....	60,878
Total.....	£258,042

The average number of passengers conveyed each voyage was 1,106, and the total number for the season, 24,482, more than 6,000 in excess of the number conveyed during the previous season. The average cost of passage-money per adult, reckoning officers, ladies, and soldiers, is £19 4s. The aggregate cost per adult, however, when interest on the original outlay of capital is calculated, is set down at £85 10s.

#### MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

SINGER—THOMPSON.—On Tuesday, September 5, by Rev. Dr. Parker, at Calvary Baptist Church, Master FREDERIC SINGER, U. S. Navy, to KATIE M., daughter of J. E. Thompson, Esq., Washington, D. C.

ROWE—WEEDEN.—On Thursday, September 21, by the Rev. Jos. T. Duryea, EDWARD V. ROWE to M. JOSEPHINE WEEDEN, both of Brooklyn. No cards.

MONROW—MOLLEN.—At Fort Quitman, Texas, September 4, 1871, by the Rev. J. W. Tays, Major A. P. MONROW, U. S. Army, to Miss ELLA MOLLEN of Cleveland, O.

HITCHCOCK—HIGGINS.—In Baltimore, September 26, 1871, by the Rev. Dr. Backus, Lieutenant R. D. HITCHCOCK, Jr., U. S. Navy, to MARY E., oldest daughter of the late Captain Thomas A. Higgins, of Brooklyn, N. Y. (No cards.)

BRADLEY—BEACH.—At Atlanta, Ga., on the evening of September 4, by Rev. Thomas M. Harris, First Lieutenant JAMES H. BRADLEY, Eighteenth Infantry, to Miss MARY I. BEACH, only daughter of Dr. S. S. Beach, Atlanta, Ga. (No cards.)

#### BIRTH.

IVES.—At Tuckahoe, N. Y., October 25, wife of Dr. Hugh M. Ives, late major U. S. Volunteers, of a son.

#### DIED.

OLMSTED.—At Yerba Buena Island, San Francisco Harbor, Cal., September 11, 1871, FANNIE W. JOHNSON, wife of Captain George T. Olmsted, Second U. S. Artillery.